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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK

JANUARY 30, 1892

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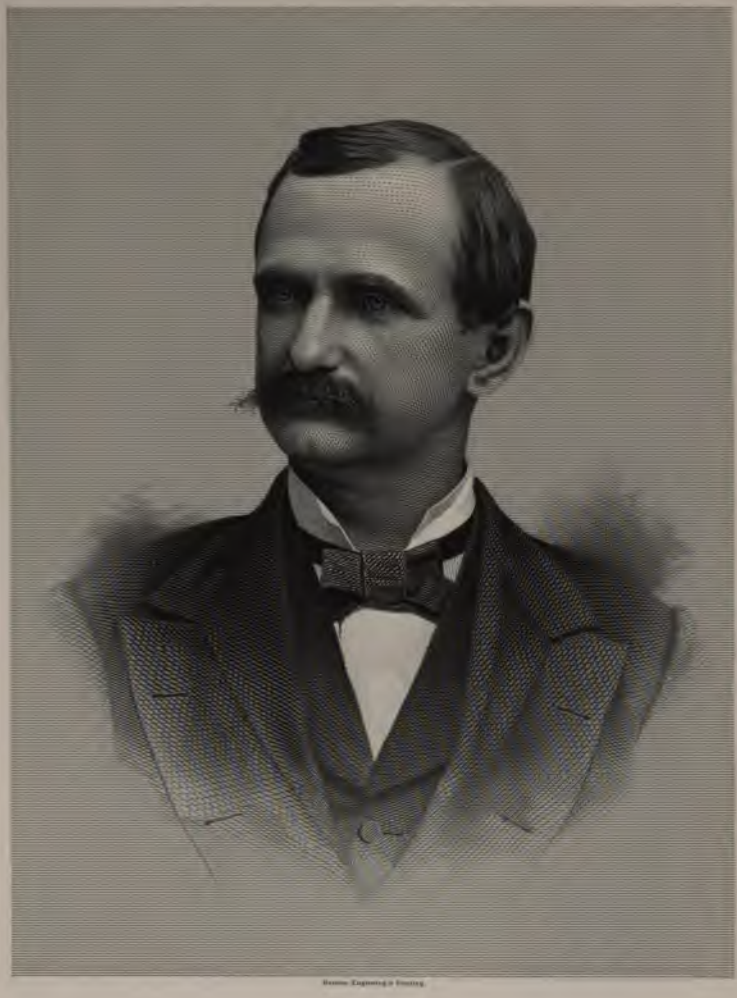

Yours faithfully,

L. C. Hawk.

Yours faithfully,

L. C. Hawk.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK,

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM TENNESSEE,

DELIVERED IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IN THE SENATE,

JANUARY 30TH AND FEBRUARY 9TH, 1892,

FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1892.

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CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO PRINT THE EULOGIES UPON LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK.

Resolved by the House of Representatives (*the Senate concurring*), That there be printed, of the eulogies delivered in Congress upon LEONIDAS C. HOUK, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee, eight thousand copies, of which number two thousand copies shall be delivered to the Senators and Representatives of the State of Tennessee, which shall include fifty copies to be bound in full morocco to be delivered to the family of the deceased; and of those remaining two thousand shall be for the use of the Senate, and four thousand for the use of the House of Representatives, and the Secretary of the Treasury is directed to have printed a portrait of the said LEONIDAS C. HOUK to accompany said eulogies.

Agreed to in the House of Representatives March 23, 1892.

Agreed to in the Senate March 22, 1892.

DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE HOUK.

ACCOUNT OF THE SAD ACCIDENT.

The angel of death has taken away from Knoxville one of its brightest, most prominent, and illustrious residents. Congressman L. C. HOUK has departed this life; his soul took flight yesterday morning at 6:23 o'clock.

Judge HOUK had been in the best of health, and as late as Sunday afternoon was out walking with his wife. A few minutes after 5 o'clock Judge HOUK left his residence and went to the drug store of A. Allen DePue, at the corner of Park and Crozier streets.

After buying some cigars he went to the front of the store and engaged in conversation with some gentlemen. A little while afterward he asked Mr. Lobenhoffer, the prescription clerk, for a glass of water. Mr. HOUK followed him back of the prescription desk.

Facing the front of the store, back of this desk at the left, is a short counter, on which was a solution of arsenic in a glass, which was in a basin half full of water over a small oil stove. Mr. Lobenhoffer drew a glass of water and placed it upon this counter. Mr. HOUK drank the water.

Then Mr. Lobenhoffer went to the front of the store, and when he returned Mr. HOUK said to him: "What is that stuff in that glass?" (pointing to the solution of arsenic).

"That glass contained poison enough to kill a dozen men. You didn't drink that, did you?" said the clerk. Mr. HOUK said he had, and as its contents were told him he became greatly excited. An emetic was at once given him and medical aid summoned. He vomited profusely and it helped him greatly.

As soon as Drs. Price and Cawood arrived he was taken to his home and put to bed. From that time until 10 o'clock he rested very comfortably; in fact, he rested so easily then that the physicians left his bedside. Elmer Houk, his son, sat by the bed, watching his father.

The patient soon fell asleep, and at 1 o'clock yesterday morning, when Dr. Price called, he was still sleeping. At 3 o'clock he awoke, but soon fell asleep again, and this continued until about 6 o'clock, when he awoke.

Elmer had been called to breakfast and Mrs. McClellan, a cousin of Judge HOUK, took her post at the bedside. It was while Elmer was at breakfast that Mrs. McClellan rushed into the dining room and told Elmer that his father was worse. Hastening to the sick chamber, Elmer found his father gasping for breath. He at once gave some medicine, but it was of no avail, and at 6:20 o'clock Judge HOUK was dead.

Coroner Murphy held the inquest over the remains. His jury of inquest consisted of Charles Nelson, James H. Cruze, Rush Strong, Wm. Epps, R. J. Lane, Dr. S. R. Rogers, and Dr. J. M. Harbison. The verdict was that death resulted from poison accidentally administered.—[*Knoxville Daily Journal, May* 26, 1891.]

THE FUNERAL CEREMONIES.

SENATORIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ATTEND REPRESENTATIVE HOUK'S FUNERAL.

NEW YORK, *May* 27, 1891.

To B. R. STRONG,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

Senate committee arranged, and includes Senators Harris, Cullom, Stewart, Gorman, Pettigrew, and Daniel.

LEVI P. MORTON,
Vice-President.

COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 26, 1891.

To JOHN C. HOUK,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

The following committee has been appointed and ratified: Taylor of Tennessee, Enloe, McMillin, Dalzell, Wilson of Kentucky, and Crisp.

THOS. CAVANAUGH,
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

THE FLAG LOWERED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 27, 1891.

Superintendent National Cemetery, Knoxville, Tenn.:

Lower flag at cemetery to half-mast until after funeral of Hon. Leonidas C. Houk.

BATCHELDER,
Q. M. Gen., U. S. A.

OBSEQUIES.

At 2 o'clock on Thursday, May 28, 1891, the funeral obsequies of Representative L. C. HOUK occurred at the Clinch Street Methodist Church in Knoxville, Tenn. All along the streets

there stood a dense mass of people, who pressed even to the gates of the church. Nor was it a matter of mere idle curiosity which drew hither so great a throng, but there were very many hearts in that vast concourse which beat with deepest feelings of respect to the memory of the departed statesman, and with truest sympathy for those his nearest and dearest, who, in this life, should never look upon his face again.

THE FUNERAL PROCESSION.

About 1 o'clock the funeral procession left the home on Fifth avenue, and its slow and solemn course through the streets was viewed by many hundreds of people of all classes and conditions with the sincere feelings of sorrow that this was the last scene of all in the history of a man who has so long been a prominent and widely esteemed citizen and leader in the State. The order of the procession was as follows: The hearse, preceded by the carriages of the officiating ministers, the active pall-bearers and honorary pall-bearers.

Active pall-bearers: J. H. Cruze, John W. Conner, John E. Chapman, G. M. Harrill, William Caswell, J. R. York, W. F. Gibbs, and M. L. Ross.

Honorary pall-bearers: Perez Dickinson, B. R. Strong, William Rule, R. N. Hood, J. C. Chiles, J. W. Sneed, J. L. Hudiburg, W. A. Henderson, D. K. Young, W. W. Woodruff, W. L. Ledgerwood, O. P. Temple, J. C. Luttrell, H. R. Gibson, Thomas L. Williams, Peter Kern, H. B. Lindsay, William M. Baxter, J. C. J. Williams, James M. Meek, of Knox County; J. C. Ellis, of Sevier County; J. A. Brown, of Anderson County; W. C. Chumlea, of Blount County; William Allen, of Campbell County; M. L. Mourfield, of Loudon County; W. D. Wright, of Morgan County; J. F. Tarwater, of Roane County; J. C. Parker, of Scott County; E. B. Morton, of Union County; C. E. Harris, of Jefferson County.

Carriages of family and relatives; members of the Grand Army of the Republic, as guard of honor; a long procession of carriages of members of Congress, friends, acquaintances, and citizens.

A procession of greater length was perhaps never seen in this city. By the time the procession had arrived at the church doors the interior had been largely filled. The casket moved up the aisle to the sweet strains of solemn music.

EXERCISES AT THE CHURCH.

The exercises were opened by singing the grand old hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," by a choir of seven voices—Miss Mary Fleming, Miss Bishop, Miss Kennedy, Miss Carter; Messrs. McKenzie, Richards, and Slocum. Rev. Dr. Prentiss then read extracts from the Epistle to the Corinthians. Hymn 656, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," was followed by prayer by Dr. Prentiss. Then followed the reading, by Dr. Prentiss, of a biographical sketch of Judge HOUK from the Journal of Tuesday, the 26th instant. After the reading of the biographical sketch the following beautiful oration was pronounced by Rev. R. J. Cooke, M. A., D. D., Professor of Historical Theology in U. S. Grant University:

At the funeral obsequies of the Grand Monarque, Louis of France, Massillon, the court preacher, declared, in the presence of a vast and brilliant assemblage: "God alone is great!" In the presence of the Eternal, the universes, with their hosts of suns and glittering stars, are but as the vanishing mists of the morning. "God alone is great!" In the presence of that Eternal, how vain, how empty, how transitory all beneath the stars!

"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth, e'er gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour—
The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

The generations of men following in the long procession of the ages come and go like the leaves upon the forest trees, and the question is ever springing from the human heart that was uttered long ago by the patriarch Job: "If a man die, shall he live again?"

The illustrious citizen and statesman who is now but a white silence in our midst has suddenly, from the activities and sympathies and the clangors of life, passed into the infinite beyond, and we, in this sacred place, amid this hushed assemblage, whisper the ancient cry of the human: "If a man die, shall he live again?"

The universe of mind never propounded a profounder question. It was born, not in the dialectics of the schools, not in Titanic struggles for the earthly great, not in the bat-blind gropings of materialistic agnosticism, but from the agonizing throes of the human heart and the God-consciousness of the human soul. It was born of Hope, and nourished at the breasts of Faith. Long before the sages of Greece studied the hereafter in the Marble Porch or in the Agora; long before Roman orators discussed it in the senate on the occasion of the Cataline Conspiracy; ages before the nations of Europe bowed down to the Cross, the emblem of redemption; far back in time's early morn, while the world was yet young, the cry for immortality is heard, and God, the Eternal, preserved that cry in the Bible, the Book of Life to all, that with the cry there may forever be bound up the promise of everlasting fullness. It was not always thus to all men, nor is it so to-day. Job looked out upon nature and saw the return of day and night; the sun rose in the morning out of the devouring darkness; at night Arcturus and the Pleiades, and Mazzaroth, with his sons, came forth with the starry hosts, and would do so for millenniums to come. Winter destroyed the glory of autumn, and death reigned in river and mountain and plain; but spring came, and the flowers bloomed. Lebanon rejoiced, and Carmel and Sharon put on their royal robes, and filled the earth with the fragrance of flowers and the singing of birds. Job saw all this, and, in the outreaching of his soul, propounded the question: "If a man die, shall he live again?"

No one has ever dared to positively answer that question but One. To-day, in this materialistic period, when agnosticism and materialistic science thrust God, so neighborly to men of old, into the infinite spaces beyond us, we lose sight of this tremendous question at times, and it is only when we are brought, by the providence of the Eternal, to a sudden change, that we perceive how utterly vain are the words of philosophy. There is no metaphysical argument to prove the immortality of the soul. Metaphysics assume, at the outset, the very thing to be proved. There is no historical argument to prove it; no argument from the intuitions; no argument from analogy. The bud that blossomed last year will never bloom again. All these are great arguments. The thought of immortality almost proves immortal life; but, in the analytical grip of reason, they all are but nature's testimonials to the mighty fact which was for the time brought clearly and grandly and closely to the heart and brains of men by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the great proof, and the everlasting proof, that if a man die he shall live again; and if a man die in Him—if a man is washed and made white in His blood—he shall never see death; and from the morning when Christ broke the seal of the Roman Empire on his tomb, and scattered the hosts of darkness, and came forth into the light of day, from that day until this the thought of immortality has gladdened the souls of men, and has made beautiful the path of suffering. So, when the dead are carried out from us—when we stand alone in the churches—when we cry out in our sorrow for the touch of a friendly hand, or the sound of a voice that is still—

there comes into our souls the blessed and sweet assurance that those that have died have entered into that immortality which is not length, but depth of life. Let me, in the sweet charity of God, believe that he who so successfully went through life has entered, by the mercy of God, into everlasting rest.

There is a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea. There is in the Gospel of Christ a yet greater, and wider, and farther-reaching power than mortal man has ever realized.

You knew this, the illustrious man who has been among us, from the very beginning—from the very day when he, with many men whom I see in this house to-day, rallied to the call of his country and went forth upon the battlefield. Of those times it is not for me to speak. I was but a boy. In the far-off ages to come, when the thrilling events of our day shall have become a stroller's song or an evening's tale, when the sharp points and jagged outlines of the present shall have been toned down by the haze of centuries, some epic-loving bard will awake the harp to new Iliads, and sing the deeds of heroes greater far than Grecian heroes or Trojan chiefs.

There can be but one sentiment as we gather here around this man. As Christian people we gather to-day and humbly lift our hearts to Almighty God that He will pour His comforting grace into the hearts of these friends—into the hearts of this stricken family. He was a man that loved the church, for among the last words that I heard him utter on yonder street were: "I love the Methodist Church."

But, brethren, let me speak to you to-day in the name of Christ. Let every heart in this church remember that death may come to you as suddenly as it came to this illustrious man. Let me beg of you, as a minister of the Lord Christ, to remember that some day, in some unwarned moment, He may call you home; "for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh."

BISHOP JOYCE'S DISCOURSE.

At the conclusion of Dr. Cooke's remarks Bishop Joyce, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, delivered an eloquent sermon.

The casket was a cedar shell, zinc lined, covered with black broadcloth, with oxidized and satin trimmings.

The plate bore the inscription:

LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK,
June 8, 1836.
May 25, 1891.
Union Soldier, 1861–'63.
Judge, 1866–'70.
State Legislator, 1873–'75.
Congressman, 1879–'91.

Emblems of mourning, black hangings, were stretched across the church and around the altar.

The floral tributes from many friends were marvels of exquisite loveliness, beautiful designs of sweet flowers, "foot-prints of angels," their fragrance ascending like incense heavenward.

The following floral designs, presented by friends, were prepared by H. W. Richardson & Co., of this city:

A beautiful pillow, composed of roses and lilies; in the center in immortelles the name L. C. HOUK. Presented by John W. Conner, clerk of the county court of Knox County.

A floral broken ladder, with a star and cross combined, presented by Mr. F. J. Callan.

"Gates Ajar," composed of lilies, rosebuds, cape jasmines, carnations, smilax, and ferns, overhung by a star and crescent, a lovely design, presented by the employés of the city post-office.

A design representing a falling leaf, sickle, and star, composed of rosebuds, carnations, lilies, and smilax, a tribute from Mr. Rush Strong.

A floral harp, four and a half feet high, from the Knoxville Bar Association.

A beautiful basket of flowers, from Postmaster John Hudiburg.

A magnificent cluster of calla lilies, from friends in Washton City.

There were many other beautiful baskets, wreaths, etc., from friends in this city and elsewhere.

Following is the prayer by Bishop Joyce, concluding the church exercises:

Be present with us, greatest God, as we conclude this service and resume our journey toward the city of the dead. Wilt Thou go with us each step of the way, and be present with this dear wife and children there, and with these comrades and these

associates. May we be conscious in our innermost nature, O Lord, that we are in thy hands, Thy Spirit is helping us and sustaining us, and we are not lost sight of.

Oh, thou blessed Son of God, that didst walk in stormy sea at night, walk beside these dear ones, and say, "Peace, be still." And when Thou hast done with us on earth, wilt Thou take us into Thy presence? We ask it through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

After the church exercises the almost interminable procession turned up Gay street and proceeded directly to Gray Cemetery. Long before the procession reached the cemetery, thousands of people had gathered beneath the beautiful shades, and hundreds had massed at the open grave, which is situated at the extreme south side of the old cemetery. The sides of the grave were lined with evergreens and roses as far down as the outer case for the casket. As the general cortege neared the grave the great multitude parted to make an approach to the grave and reverently bared their heads.

First came Bishop Joyce, of Chattanooga; R. J. Cooke, D. D., of Athens, and Lyman E. Prentiss, D. D., of this city, followed by the casket, members of the bereaved family, a delegation from Ed. Maynard Post, No. 14; the Congressional delegation, composed of Senator Cullom, of Illinois; Senator Harris, of Tennessee; Congressman Crisp, of Georgia, and Congressmen B. A. Enloe, A. A. Taylor, and Benton McMillan, of Tennessee, and citizens.

THE LAST LOOK.

The casket was placed over the grave and the lid withdrawn, in order that the remains might be reviewed by the great mass of people present, each of whom felt a personal loss in the death of Judge HOUK.

Patiently the immediate friends of the deceased waited while with solemn faces fully 1,500 people viewed the remains.

Bishop Joyce then led in the brief services at the grave;

prayer was offered by Dr. Cooke, and all joined in the Lord's Prayer.

While the grave was being filled, the choir sang "Abide With Me" and "I Would Not Live Always."

When the grave was filled, the beautiful floral offerings already described were placed upon the last resting place of Judge HOUK. The ceremony was very impressive throughout. The assembly was then dismissed with benediction.

NOTES ON THE FUNERAL.

The mass of people at the Clinch street M. E. church, in attendance at the funeral of Judge HOUK, and the great crowd that was gathered at the cemetery at the same time, attest more emphatically than words to the fact that the deceased was one of the people, and that the people, the masses, held him in highest esteem.—[*Knoxville Daily Journal, May* 29, 1891.]

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH.

DECEMBER 16, 1891.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to perform the mournful duty of announcing to the House the death of my friend and late colleague, the Hon. LEONIDAS C. HOUK. He died suddenly, of accidental poisoning, at his home in the city of Knoxville, on the 25th day of May of the present year.

Thousands of his countrymen followed his remains in sorrow to their last resting place, and thousands more wept as they would weep at the grave of nearest kindred when they realized that their faithful friend and trusted Representative had passed away.

From 1861 to 1863 he was a Union soldier, being colonel of the Third Tennessee Infantry; from 1866 to 1870 he was judge of his judicial circuit; from 1873 to 1875 he was a State legislator. He entered the Forty-sixth Congress, and was elected consecutively to the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-first, and Fifty-second Congresses. He had a hold upon his people far beyond that of any man or combination of men, and, had he lived, he could have been returned to Congress as long as he might have desired to remain in the public service. He died poor in this world's goods, but rich in the friendship and love of his countrymen.

I shall say no more of him now, for I am aware that some day in the future will be fixed by the House when his associates and friends will be accorded an opportunity to place on record their estimate of his life and character, of his public services, and to take such action as they may deem best fitting as a last tribute of respect to his memory.

I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the resolution which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. LEONIDAS C. HOUK, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to his memory, the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER. The question is upon agreeing to the resolutions offered by the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Taylor].

The resolutions were agreed to unanimously.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 14 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until Saturday.

JANUARY 13, 1892.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the present consideration of the resolution, which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That Saturday, January 30, beginning at 1 o'clock p. m., be set apart for paying tribute to the memory of the Hon. LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK, late a member of the House of Representatives from the Second district of the State of Tennessee.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Tennessee, moved to reconsider the vote by which the resolution was adopted; and also moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The latter motion was agreed to.

EULOGIES.

JANUARY 30, 1892.

The House met at 12 o'clock m. The Chaplain, Rev. William H. Milburn, D. D., offered the following prayer:

God of our fathers, we bless Thee for the long line of noteworthy and patriotic men that, from Congress to Congress, have entered these halls, and by whose labors and counsel the mighty edifice of our State has been erected, a Government that has risen to majestic proportions, the sight whereof is gladness to the world. Men pass, but the Government remains and grows in its glory. Their sons rise up to serve the States and do their memory honor.

We are here to weave, as in a wreath, the tribute of our respect, memory, and affection for a man who answered to the roll call of the House less than a year ago, cut off untimely before half the afternoon of his life was spent; a man of rich qualities, that made him racy of the soil in the beautiful land where he was born and bred, to whose service and welfare his life was supremely devoted; a man of ability and energy, diligent in all his labors, unwearied in activity, fearless in courage, dauntless in conflict, firm and steadfast in friendship, a man who wrought himself into the affectionate trust and confidence of his constituents, by his convictions and principles in sympathy with their own, as few men have done. Grant, O Lord, that the lesson of our mortality may come home to every man's heart and conscience, and may we be impressed with the truth that ere long the Son of Man shall call for us to render our account at the judgment seat. Give us Thy grace, that we all may be ready, and so come to join the innumerable company on Thy right hand in Heaven. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will read from the RECORD the special order fixed for to-day.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. TAYLOR, of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the present consideration of the resolution which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

"*Resolved*, That Saturday, January 30, beginning at 1 o'clock p. m., be set apart for paying tribute to the memory of Hon. LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK, late a member of the House of Representatives from the Second district of the State of Tennessee."

Mr. TAYLOR, of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I offer the resolutions I send to the desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK, late a member from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, As a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, that the House, at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

ADDRESS OF MR. TAYLOR, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. SPEAKER: Death stands sentinel, grim and inexorable, hostile and implacable, on the boundary line of the unknown. There is no countersign, no password, for he is a foe to all who come, and all must come. His only command is "Halt!" In this stern word is the authority of God's decree, the infrangible seal of Fate! From obedience there is no escape, from that seal there is no exemption; for clemency there is no bribe, no parley, no persuasion. Time can grant no procrastination, no respite, eternity urge no argument. The Court of Heaven hears no appeal, grants no stay.

The angel Mercy pleads in vain. His fell stroke must descend upon all flesh. The voice of merit but invites his aim, the brightness of virtue only attracts his arrow. Infancy and

youth wither and fade as the severed violet, the plucked rose. Manhood, womanhood, rich with the ripeness of mature years, fall as the laden fruit tree uprooted in the full season of its fruitage. Age bows and crashes to the earth like the decayed and storm-riven oak. Time is the pale harvest field of Death, the world is his charnel house, and the history of the race is but the record of his mournful tragedies. When kindred and companions, friends and comrades, fall around us, love, grief, and tears bid us suspend for a season the cares and occupations of life and yield to them the last tribute of the heart's best incense.

In the death of my late colleague, the Hon. LEONIDAS C. HOUK, the State of Tennessee has lost one of her most distinguished citizens, the Republican party one of its ablest leaders, and the Second Congressional district a zealous and devoted Representative and guardian of every interest of its people.

Judge HOUK was born the 8th day of June, 1836, in a log cabin among the mountains of Sevier County, East Tennessee. His early life was passed in poverty and obscurity, unattended with educational advantages. But he was endowed with no ordinary mind. Nature had bestowed upon him rare intellectual powers, which would not brook the restraints and fetters of adversity. He was reënforced with an aspiring ambition and an indomitable will, which were destined to conquer opposing circumstances and create opportunities.

He caught the inspiration of his native mountains. To him every gorge and pass symbolized an intellectual Thermopylæ with its triumph, and every towering peak a scaling ladder to the heights of light and liberty!

At an early age he learned the trade of cabinet-maker; and it was while engaged in this avocation he developed an insatia-

ble thirst for knowledge and those liberal acquirements which would enable him to rise in the world. For several years he consumed the day in toil and half the night in study. I have heard him frequently assert that three months would cover the entire period of his attendance at school. Having thus acquired, without a teacher, a fair English education, he next undertook the study of law, and by the same process and without the aid of a tutor mastered its principles. He was at length admitted to the bar and immediately entered the practice. He soon took rank among the foremost jurists of the country, and became noted as an advocate without a superior in his State.

In the Presidential campaign of 1860 he made his first appearance in politics, when he entered the lists for Bell and Everett, on the platform of "the Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws." In 1861, pending the passage of the ordinance of secession, he was a delegate to two memorable Union conventions, now historical in our State, one held at Knoxville in May of that year and the other at Greeneville in the following June. The purpose of these conventions was to protest against the ordinance of secession, and he suggested and urged bold and aggressive measures for the prevention of that fatal step which afterwards brought disaster upon Tennessee and the South.

In 1864 he was on Lincoln and Johnson's electoral ticket. In 1865 he was elected a member of the constitutional convention which reorganized the State government. He served as a delegate to the Chicago convention of 1868, which nominated Gen. Grant for President. With but one exception he has taken part in every succeeding national convention, and in that of 1880 was one of the famous 306 who stood firm and voted to the last for Gen. Grant's nomination for a third term.

At the breaking out of the civil war, and just as he was entering a lucrative law practice, he volunteered in the Union army and was soon promoted to the colonelcy of the Third Tennessee Infantry, and in this capacity rendered to his country honorable service. In 1866 he was chosen judge of his judicial circuit, and served four years with distinction. In 1873 he was elected to the State Legislature, where he was at once recognized as the leader of his party, lacking only one vote of election as speaker in a Democratic house and against the Democratic caucus nominee. He was next triumphantly elected, after a prolonged struggle, to the Forty-sixth Congress, and was afterwards elected consecutively to the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-first, and Fifty-second Congresses.

In this long career in the House he was always recognized as a faithful Representative and an able and conscientious legislator. Diligent, energetic, active, aggressive, and vigilant, he was a conspicuous figure in every Congress of which he was a member. He stood as a champion of the people, and his voice was heard on every question involving or affecting their sacred rights and interests. His love of his country was coextensive with its boundaries, and its growth, prosperity, peace, and welfare were ever the paramount objects of his hope and labors.

He was magnanimous and forgiving. He knew not how to cultivate hatred or to perpetuate enmity in his heart. Though a stanch Unionist from the first day of the civil war, joining in the struggle as a Federal soldier, and during its course embittered with all the terrible animosities of that stormy and perilous period, yet at its conclusion he was among the first to cast aside and forget those animosities and to hold out the olive branch. And when, after the close of hostilities, the Confed-

erates of Tennessee, as a result of the war, were temporarily deprived of the right of suffrage, he was the first Unionist of East Tennessee to publicly advocate their restoration to the elective franchise and to all the rights of citizenship.

He was not exempt from the frailties of our common humanity. He had his faults—who has them not?—wounding himself rather than others; but his virtues plead for them as the roses plead for the thorns they cover. As we crave the charity of our fellow-men for our own faults, so let us cheerfully and lovingly drop its gracious mantle over his, remembering only his virtues.

Steadfast in his principles, firm in his convictions, unwavering in his faith, fearless and eloquent in the advocacy of any cause he espoused, forceful and incisive in argument, he was a formidable antagonist in debate; yet by his manly and courteous demeanor and his fair treatment of the question at issue he always won and retained the confidence and respect of his adversary.

He was an indefatigable worker; he never ate idle bread; his success in life rested upon the merits of honest and persistent toil coupled with unusual mental powers. A child of poverty and obscurity, a common laborer on a farm, an apprentice, a tradesman, a student without a tutor, self-taught and self-supported, rising step by step by his own unaided efforts to the profession of law, to the dignity of the judicial ermine, to honorable position in the military service, to high political preferments as a statesman of recognized ability, to the noble and enviable distinction of a useful and universally respected citizen, his career presents one of the most striking illustrations of the possibilities offered to men under our institutions and our system of government.

In the life and career of this distinguished American statesman and citizen we recognize the glorious fact that here the foot of the ladder rests; not on the higher level (there are no higher levels), but on the common level of mankind; that the humblest, the poorest, the most obscure may climb to the top, and that the divine right to rule inheres not in the few, but the many; not in descent, but in merit; not in blood, but in brains!

"Green grow the grass above his grave," and ever fresh and green be his memory in the hearts of his countrymen. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. ENLOE, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. SPEAKER: The only compensation for the brevity of human life is the hope of immortality. Life is a boon unsought and death a mystery unsolved, except by faith. To-day we are zealously pursuing our cherished plans and eagerly pressing forward to some earthly goal where hope whispers we shall find happiness. To-morrow death enters, the unfinished life work is laid aside, the busy hands are folded, the tired brain rests, and words of praise and of censure alike fail to stir the pulseless heart. We have seen many of our colleagues, who entered this theater of political strife and patriotic endeavor, seeking a deathless fame through self-sacrifice and devotion to public duty, go hence to answer the mysterious summons.

In the presence of death how pitiful the passions, how delusive the hopes, how insignificant the aims of men appear. When one dies who has done his public duty as best he could and has made enemies, as he must in doing it, the fashion of the

times is either to pay just tribute too long withheld to him who can not receive it, or, as if to cancel the debt perforce, to overbalance the account with fulsome eulogy. More kindness for the living and less praise for the dead would better square the account with conscience. It is not any more the legitimate province of those who pronounce funeral orations here or elsewhere to indulge in exaggerated praise of the virtues of the dead than it would be to criticise their shortcomings or to censure their faults. The story of a man's life is his best eulogy. My acquaintance with my late colleague, Judge HOUK, dates back to 1873, but I never knew him until the beginning of the Fiftieth Congress.

To the story of his life so eloquently told by his neighbor and colleague [Mr. Taylor] I could add nothing, except my personal tribute to the manly qualities he always exhibited in his official and personal intercourse with me.

Differing with him in politics and being a comparative stranger to him personally, I candidly confess that I had not understood his real character and that I met him with a certain degree of prejudice and distrust.

He was a man who neither gave nor asked quarter in the heat of conflict. His convictions were positive, his language was always vigorous and emphatic, and when he entered the arena of debate he aimed at the vital points; but when the political gladiators met in social intercourse after the conflict was over, he was always genial and kind, and he was generous enough to forget that blows had been given and received.

I always found him ready and willing to hear the reasons in support of measures brought to his attention, and when he gave a promise to help he kept it. He admired a bold and manly opposition, and the stronger and more aggressive his political

antagonist the greater his admiration for him. He was devoted to the people who gave him such loyal support. Coming from the ranks of the masses, having struggled upward unaided, he knew the hearts of the common people, and always kept in touch with them.

No member ever watched over local matters and promoted the personal interests of his constituents with greater vigilance than he did. He had bound them to him with a thousand ties, and when I stood beside his bier at his home in Knoxville, Tenn., and looked upon the thousands of people of all classes, who came from all parts of his district to place a flower or to drop a tear upon his grave, I was more than ever convinced that he occupied the highest place in the affections of his people.

Sharp and often bitter as the political conflicts had been in his district, he had endeared himself personally to many of his political opponents, and they joined with his political friends in paying their silent tribute of respect to his memory.

There may be little significance in the crowds that follow the triumphant leader to celebrate a victory, but when multitudes turn out to follow the dead leader, whose hand holds no rewards to distribute among his followers, it is the heartfelt eulogy of a grateful people.

Judge HOUK demonstrated more elements of successful leadership than any man of his party in Tennessee, and during his life I always regarded him as its ablest leader.

The estimate of his abilities among his colleagues on this floor was always high, and on all occasions his public utterances justified that estimate. He was justly regarded as the ablest Representative of his party in Congress from the South.

His death was an irreparable loss to his party in Tennessee and a great loss to his party here, and it was a personal loss to

everyone who knew the value of his friendship. The bereaved family have our profound sympathy in their affliction.

The resurrection is the silver lining to the dark clouds of death, and we know the sun is shining beyond.

'Tis immortality—'tis that alone—
Amid life's pains, abasements, emptiness,
The soul can comfort, elevate, and fill;
That only, and that amply, this performs.

[Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. WASHINGTON, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. SPEAKER: On the 25th day of May, 1891, in the prime of life, in the full vigor of manhood, in the midst of an active and useful career as a member of this House, LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK was accidentally and suddenly stricken down by the remorseless hand of Death. Lacking but fourteen days of having completed fifty-five years of life, he had crowded a century of work into that period of time. His proud spirit brooked no restraint. His wonderful energy never tired.

Of poor and obscure parentage, he had neither riches nor influential friends to push his fortunes; but by an indomitable will worked out his own education, carved out his own career. From the humble barefoot plowboy in homespun breeches, he became, in turn, advocate, soldier, jurist, politician, legislator, and statesman in that rapid and unimpeded succession which only genius can achieve. His life affords us one of the most striking exemplifications of the fact so often asserted, that to the American youth, regardless of the accident of birth and of family, the highest honors are accessible, and that merit alone can command success. Born and reared in East Tennessee, amid those beautiful mountains whose green tops stand forever

wreathed in fleecy clouds, his ardent nature took much of its coloring from his early surroundings.

The frugal fare and the unconfined life of the wild nature about him, dominated only by the fierce conflict of the elements, made him from boyhood an ardent lover of liberty and a stubborn foe to slavery.

When the civil war began he naturally took his stand on the side of the Union with his accustomed zeal and force. When the war cloud had passed and peace was restored his hand and voice were ever ready to defend the unfortunate. A bitter partisan in politics when his party principles were at stake, he never allowed party feeling to warp his judgment in a matter where individual rights were concerned, and in him those Southern war claimants whose cause was just ever found a faithful friend and advocate.

An intense Republican from honest conviction, he never pretended to what he did not believe. Fierce in denunciation of political wrongdoing, he never posed in the pharisaical rôle of "I am holier than thou," so common, alas! with many to-day. When he gave his promise to a political adversary in this House it could be absolutely relied upon. So that though he fought hard he always fought honorably. In debate he was strong, in repartee he was to be feared. A quaint humor marked many a savage thrust. His course in this House was characterized by a diligence, tact, and unfailing courtesy which brought him into most agreeable relations with his colleagues.

To his party in Tennessee and in the South he was a well-nigh irreparable loss. Courageous, aggressive, effective, and sturdy, his friends loved him, his enemies had cause to fear him. Had his party more leaders of his character, caliber, and po-

tency its influence in the South would be greater. The editor of a northern Democratic newspaper has well said of him:

"To the superior quality of Republicanism in his State, Judge HOUK contributed by zealous and constant endeavor. His efforts in that commendable direction were never more earnest than at national conventions. With splendid eloquence and withering scorn he exposed and denounced the wretched creatures who, while acting as delegates, make merchandise of their votes. The corruption of the Southern delegates at national Republican conventions has been a crying abuse ever since the second candidacy of Gen. Grant. To abate or suppress the evil was Judge HOUK'S laudable ambition and desire. While he never succeeded in eradicating the wrong, he did much to modify its effects. Politics in his State and in the country at large was the better by reason of his connection with it. His departure will be mourned sincerely by his constituents in the State which gave 'Old Hickory' to the nation and conferred upon it in after years the striking personalities of Andrew Johnson and 'Parson' Brownlow. Sorrow for his untimely and tragic death will extend beyond geographical and party lines, and even his bitterest partisan adversary will not hesitate to lay a token of remembrance upon his grave." [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. HENDERSON, OF ILLINOIS.

Mr. SPEAKER: For twelve years I had the honor of serving as a member of this body with the late Hon. LEONIDAS C. HOUK, of the State of Tennessee, and it was with deep sorrow and regret that I heard of his death, and of the sad circumstances under which it occurred.

Judge HOUK represented the Congressional district in the

State of Tennessee in which he was born in the Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, and Fifty-first Congresses, and was elected in November, 1890, a member of the Fifty-second Congress, but died from accidental poisoning on the 25th of May last at his home in Knoxville, before taking his seat, deeply lamented by his constituents and friends who had honored him by seven successive elections as a member of this body.

Mr. Speaker, there is no better illustration of the character of our country and its institutions and of the possibilities presented to the American youth than is found in the life of Judge HOUK, to whose memory we pay tribute to-day. Born in a cabin, of poor parents, so far as this world's goods are concerned, he was left fatherless at the age of three years, and, when old enough, was placed at work on a farm. Still this boy of pluck and energy worked his way up in life, studied law while supporting himself by the labor of his own hands, was admitted to the bar in the twenty-third year of his age, and at once became a successful lawyer. At the age of twenty-four years he entered the political arena and took the stump in the Presidential campaign of 1860 for Bell and Everett, on a platform which declared in favor of "the Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws."

At the age of twenty-five he was already widely known in East Tennessee, and, arraying himself on the side of the Union, he took a conspicuous part in the discussion which preceded the civil war. He was a prominent member of Union conventions held at Knoxville and at Greeneville, Tenn., in 1861, in which he declared himself firmly and unalterably opposed to secession, and in August of the same year he abandoned his profession and entered the service of his country as a soldier,

a service in which he rose to the command of a regiment and rendered gallant service, for he was a man of courage and of earnest, ardent patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, having served as a soldier in the war for the preservation of the Union in East Tennessee and in the county in which Judge HOUK was born, and having been associated with the soldiers of East Tennessee much of the time during my service, I will say in this connection that there were no people in any section of our country more loyal to the Union than were the great body of the people of East Tennessee, nor were there any soldiers in the Union Army more brave, gallant, and patriotic than were the soldiers of the same section. I have sometimes thought there was something in the very air of the mountains and valleys of East Tennessee which made the people who inhabited them loyal to the Government of their fathers.

At one time I sent two hundred men of my regiment under Gen. Sanders, in what was known as the Sanders raid, into East Tennessee, and on their return I asked one of the men how they found the people in East Tennessee, whether loyal to the Union or not. He replied, "So loyal, colonel, that you could feel it in the atmosphere as soon as you got into the State."

Compelled to leave the service on account of ill-health, after serving nearly two years, he resumed the practice of his profession; but in 1865 he was elected a member of the constitutional convention which reorganized the State government of the State of Tennessee.

In 1866 he was elected judge of the circuit court of the seventeenth judicial circuit, which office he held for four years. But he was more inclined to political life, and in 1872 was

elected a member of the State legislature, and in 1878, as I have already stated, was elected a Representative of this body and held that office until the day of his death.

What a noble example the life of Judge HOUK furnishes to the young men of the country who are of humble birth and fortune.

But, Mr. Speaker, it is not my purpose in speaking of the life and character of Judge HOUK to occupy the attention of the House more than a few moments; and I must leave to others the duty of speaking more particularly of the distinguished services which as a Representative in Congress he rendered to his constituents and the country.

I will, however, say that Judge HOUK was an able and faithful Representative, and during his long service as such took a prominent part in the proceedings of Congress, and was ever watchful and zealous in looking after the interests of his constituents and of his State. I well remember with what great earnestness he urged liberal appropriations to improve the rivers of East Tennessee, and with what pride he spoke of the great benefits which his constituents derived from their improvement. Being a native of the State of Tennessee, I was, perhaps, on that account early brought into close and friendly relations with him after he became a member of the House, and serving on a committee which had in charge the improvement of rivers and harbors, he often appealed to me earnestly as a Tennesseean to see that the water ways of his State were not permitted to suffer for the want of necessary appropriations to improve them.

But Judge HOUK, while he loved his native State, her mountains, her valleys, and her beautiful rivers, and rejoiced in her prosperity, was a broad-minded Representative, as broad in his nationality and in his patriotism as the boundaries of the entire

country, and was neither narrow nor sectional in his legislative action. On the contrary, he earnestly desired and took the greatest possible pride in the prosperity of the whole country and of each and every section of it.

Judge HOUK was an earnest, devoted Republican. He had an abiding faith in the party and its principles, and never for a moment in all my association with him did he falter in his loyalty to it or in his efforts to promote its success. In his defense of the party he gave his strongest, severest blows; but, Mr. Speaker, he was always honorable and manly, as he was always honest and sincere in his political convictions. When he died the Southern Republicans lost a bold, fearless, and able, if not their ablest, leader.

Mr. Speaker, it is well for us to cherish the memory of such men as LEONIDAS C. HOUK. Speaking for myself to-day, with the feeling that I have lost a friend, I deeply deplore his death, and am sure that all of us who knew him warmly sympathize with his bereaved family, and with his constituents, who have lost an able Representative. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. HOOKER, OF MISSISSIPPI.

Mr. SPEAKER: According to a custom that has prevailed from time immemorial in this House, when one of our members has been removed by death the public business of the state is suspended in order that the surviving members may pay just and proper tributes to the memory of the dead. We have assembled to-day, in accordance with the resolutions introduced by the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Taylor], for the purpose of paying the last sad tribute of humanity to the memory of one of our

members. It was not my fortune to be intimately associated with the deceased member, Judge HOUK, and I must therefore leave to gentlemen from his own State more intimately acquainted with him, and such as were brought into close relations with him, like my friend Judge Henderson, of Illinois, who has just so feelingly spoken of him, to spread upon the records of this House tribute to him as a citizen, a neighbor, and a friend. I will speak more especially of his public career, and of the temper and spirit in which he discharged the duties which devolved upon him in that capacity.

Death came to him, Mr. Speaker, with unusual suddenness. It never comes with unequivocal warning to any of us. Nowhere is there a more striking illustration of the suddenness with which it comes and can come to all mortals than in the case of Judge HOUK. In the fullness of ripened manhood, in the midst of a useful career, and in the city in which he lived, he was sick, I believe, for not more than twelve hours before death. It never comes except its tread be like those who tread on velvet, though its clutch be of iron. There is no warning to the man who is marked. No such warning came to the regal reveler when the unseen hand wrote on the wall, "Mene, mene, tekel, upharsin." It comes alike to all classes, all ranks, and all grades of humanity. The old Latin poet, whose classic words are familiar to most of us, properly described its approach in the memorable passage in which he says:

Pallida mors, æquo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas, regumque turres.

It passes none—the lofty and the humble are alike its objects. In this instance there has fallen a man whose public career has been remarkable. I never knew Judge HOUK until I met him in these halls. He sat upon the opposite side of the Chamber.

He was a Republican in principle. He was devoted to the principles of the party to which he belonged.

He was an earnest, honest, zealous partisan; always armed in defense of the cause which he believed to be right; and it remained with him, whether among his people at home, in that beautiful region of country that has been referred to by those who knew him better than I, amidst her mountains, or here. He always manifested that earnest strength of character, whether he stood amid his own native mountains, sometimes glassed in sunshine, sometimes covered with shadow, and sometimes the home of the storm god, or whether he stood here in this oftentime tumultuous Chamber; he stood up politically with the courage of his convictions for the principles to which he was endeared. He was emphatically a partisan—a partisan deeply devoted to the principles he believed to be right; and I do not mean to say that he was less a patriot because he was a partisan. In his career as a public man, in the defense of the principles he believed to be right; in his conduct in this House of Representatives, he reminded me of the character of those stern men who followed the lead of the great republican, Cromwell, in England, who, whether in conventicle, church, or state, were always armed cap-a-pie for the cause to which they were endeared and the leader whom they followed.

He sprung, as has been said by his comrades, from the humbler walks of life. I believe he was admitted to the bar when only twenty-three years of age. He at once took high rank among the members of the profession at a bar where such men as Judge John Baxter and Horace Maynard and other men of equal ability were accustomed to practice. When the war between the States came on, following his convictions, he became, first a private soldier, enlisting in one of the companies raised in his

own county, and in a short time afterwards was made colonel of the Third Infantry Regiment from Tennessee. He served until 1863, when his health required that he should leave the Army.

After the war was over, he became a member of the convention of Tennessee, which was intended and designed to restore her to the Union—one of those conventions to rehabilitate the States after the war was over. He saw, in common with other sensible men of their region of country, that there could be no rehabilitation that was not predicated on the consent of the people who were to be governed; and therefore that it must be a rehabilitation of the Union upon that great and immortal principle, declared by the Supreme Court of the United States in that memorable case that afterward went to it, in which they made the declaration "that, while this is an indissoluble Union, it is yet composed of indestructible States."

He was a member of that memorable convention that restored Tennessee to the Union, and soon after he came here as a member of this House. I was here when he came. I watched his course during the whole time that he was in Congress, save the period when I myself was not here, and in every instance he manifested an earnest, outspoken, and zealous advocacy of the principles which he believed to be right. He took conspicuous rank in this body. The House contained then, as always, many gentlemen who had had the advantages of a splendid education, both in the common schools of the country and in its colleges and universities; yet in debate he was strong and powerful and took high rank among them, although he had had only the advantages of a common-school education, and that in a region of country where, from the sparsity of the population and the infrequency with which the schools were kept open, he

could attend school for only two or three months during the year.

Though he was, as has been said, a laborer upon the farm and a laborer as a mechanic, he conceived the idea of entering the profession of the law, and was indebted to a kindly gentleman, Hon. O. P. Temple, who lived in his immediate neighborhood, for the loan of the books which enabled him to master at night, by a pine-torch light, that wonderfully intricate profession and become prominent in it. But it was toward political life that he had the strongest tendency, and, as I have already said, he took rank here with men who had had superior advantages to those which he had enjoyed.

He was at school but a very short time; he was his own educator, his own teacher; but he developed into a man of remarkable strength and power in this House. He was a member, and I believe that in the Forty-seventh Congress he was chairman, of the Committee on Elections, one of the most important committees of this House. He also served upon other committees of the House, and always with ability and fidelity to the trust which was reposed in him. Despite the slimness of the educational advantages which he had enjoyed, he developed into a man of mark, as was evidenced by the fact that he never at any time failed to command the support of the district which, for so many long years, he represented in this House; and had he lived until the end of the term, which has now devolved upon his son, he would have been for fourteen years consecutively a member of the House of Representatives.

He has left his mark upon the statutes that have been enacted into law during the time he served here. He has left his mark amongst the people in the midst of whom he lived, and who knew him best, as a man of wonderful energy, of great enthu-

siasm, and of a disposition to stand up at all times and at all places and speak the honest convictions of his mind. I take great pleasure, sir, in paying this, my very humble tribute, in common with other members, to the memory of our deceased brother. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. HENDERSON, OF IOWA.

Mr. SPEAKER: In 1882 it was my privilege to first know Judge HOUK. My first meeting with him made me his friend, a friendship that continued and strengthened until his death.

In estimating the character of men after they have gone, the opportunities that they may have had in life should be, it seems to me, one of the leading elements that should enter into consideration. Many men in their youth have the advantages of wealth and the earnest appeals and support of potential parents and friends to secure for them education and advancement. Throughout this country, now grown rich, how many homes there are where untiring efforts are being put forth by men of ample means to give their sons collegiate education and other high training, and yet how many of those young men seem to be entirely indifferent to their opportunities.

And, sir, while that is true, and the sons of great men are being turned down by the plowshare of time, the wheel seemingly turning so that the giants of to-day seldom leave in their children true representatives of their own power—while that, I say, is true, how often does it happen that from some simple corner of the country, some little nook of earth, in a quiet farm home, in a little woodland lot in the forest, or in some mechanic's simple, honest home, is being formed a powerful, conquering mind which almost from birth has to grapple with

poverty and to fight a brave battle for all the knowledge which it obtains. And yet such are the men that turn out the Websters and Lincolns, and such are the men that represent the great surging activities of life. I sometimes think that no greater curse can fall to the lot of a boy than wealth, and that the greatest blessing for a child is to have poverty and an honest parentage.

The subject of our thoughts this afternoon was born to poverty, but he was cradled in the arms of honesty. Think of the picture! Left fatherless at three, only three months in the public schools, yet we find him as a little boy seated, with his cheap taper, away far into the night-time, reading, reading, reading. Ah, what a school was there for such a mind as his! I see that some one in speaking of him says, that "he was an omnivorous reader." I suppose it is meant by that that he read almost everything, good and bad. You can not have a truly skillful physician unless he knows the good and the bad, health and disease. He was an omnivorous reader; but he who sat down for a cozy hour with Judge HOUK soon found out that he had drawn inspiration from the grandest interpreters of the human heart—the poets. He had lived much in the company of those gifted men and women who fill our homes with romance; those who, kindred to the poets, live in the clouds, so to speak, but can not carry you to the clouds unless they have been in the dark places of earth, at least in honest, earnest thought.

To sympathize with poverty one must have tasted of its stern realities. To comprehend the needs of the toilers of earth one must have been under the whip of necessity and felt his every muscle strained to secure the needed things of life. The poet and the novelist must first taste of life's realities before they

can interpret the wonderful longings of the human soul. Judge HOUK had been much with such poets and such novelists, and few men with whom I have conversed showed a larger knowledge of the historians.

It is true he had no diploma; he never attended a college or university; and we may say that he was a stranger to the public school; but he had the training which comes from honest work, earnest action, deep thought, and real experience. Viewed in the light of those opportunities, I think that great credit is due to the man who, working on the farm and in the shop, without a tutor, is found admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-four, a colonel soon after, a judge on the bench at twenty-six, and a potential leader of men from his early manhood until death retired him from life's busy, useful field of action.

His lines of thought and study and the tendencies of his own warm and hopeful heart and mind made him, in my judgment, an orator. You may not all agree with me in that view. Some may measure oratory by the rules laid down by the schools. Judge HOUK'S oratory was not manufactured. It was that kind of oratory that comes from the sounding sea and the thrilling voices of nature. He gathered it from the clouds, the mountains, and from human heartbeats. It was perhaps rugged and unpolished; but who ever saw Judge HOUK rise on this floor who was not at once held and thrilled by his earnest, honest, burning words? He was an orator, and he was a debater too. He had, Mr. Speaker, that wonderful gift of striking down an adversary and at the same instant making him his friend. Few men can kill the body and not wound the soul. This man could do it.

In many of his attributes he reminded me strikingly of Mr. Lincoln. A story is told—and a true one—how when Lincoln

was working in a little store in Illinois his great size and physical strength attracted the hatred of some bully in the vicinity—a giant in his way, who had given out that he was going to thrash this young Kentuckian. Abe had heard of it a good many times, but paid no attention to it. One day the bully came into the grocery store where Lincoln was lying stretched on the counter, upon his breast, reading a book. The bully came in and began to talk in an ugly, threatening way. Finally Lincoln raised himself, closed his book, and said, "I suppose I have got to thrash you, and I may as well do it at once." They went out, and were soon closed in physical conflict. The young Kentuckian soon threw the bully to the ground, rolled him in the mud, and, pulling up a handful of smartweed, rubbed it into the eyes of his opponent until he roared. Instantly the simple son of the woods of Kentucky hastened for a bucket of water, and with his own handkerchief sponged out the pain from the eyes of his adversary. It is a simple, rude story; but it is a story showing a characteristic of great hearts and great minds. And just such a character and heart had LEONIDAS C. HOUK.

As a stumper he was greater than as an orator or debater, although both of these qualities were utilized by him on the hustings. When he came before the people of his district then his power was truly seen and felt. His humor, his kindness, his large knowledge of history and of human experiences, especially among the poor, made him an irresistible power. Perhaps no man who has ever occupied a seat on this floor was more tenderly, truly, and enthusiastically followed by his constituents than Judge HOUK. And one of the great secrets of this was that he was always approachable to all the people. No other man in his district could be more freely approached and counseled with and talked to by the poorest of the people

than Judge HOUK. To learn of trouble was to command all of his powers to serve and dispel it.

He is dead; and when he was carried to his last resting place, Tennessee turned out to carry him there. On the day of his funeral the city of his residence was crowded, as we are faithfully told by every class of citizens; and as in the affectionate eulogies here to-day, from both sides of this Chamber, there was at that funeral no North, no South, no East, no West, but his countrymen were there to shed tears over his bier. Resolutions of sorrow were passed by the Grand Army of the Republic, by the bar of his State, and by many Republican organizations. Tributes of respect and admiration came from every hand, and to-day the Congress of the greatest nation on earth suspends all its business to pay homage to his memory.

The true historian must not paint the subject which he delineates with sunlight only. Judge HOUK'S nature had its lights and its shadows. He had his strong qualities, and he had his weak ones. But the shadows of his character fell only on himself, while the sunlight of his nature poured forth upon all who knew him, warming the hearts that came within his genial influence. If he had faults they were like those described by a tender writer when referring to the character of Robert Burns; they were faults that "leaned to virtue's side." They poured out of the great storehouse of his big warm heart and social nature.

I will add nothing more except to say that I profoundly regret his going, and that his achievements can be pointed to as an example for the young men of the country, an example worthy of imitation, if they would rise from obscurity and win a powerful place in the councils of their countrymen. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. CUMMINGS, OF NEW YORK.

Mr. SPEAKER: Grand are the mountains of East Tennessee. Their peaks and ridges mark the line of the land of the skies. The air there is soft and pure. The blue haze around them mellows their grandeur and adds to their charm. Well did the Indians name them Chilhowie (beautiful smoke). But there is substance with the charm. They are rich in material wealth. Ribbed with iron and veined with coal and marble, they are covered with timber firm in fiber and rare in quality. These mountains, however, are far richer in the spirit that quickened into being this mighty people, that has preserved their national life, and that has led to the development of their wealth and influence. They exhale the air of freedom.

Col. Benton once said, "Truth comes from the sources of rivers." I say the true spirit of liberty has always dwelt in the mountains. William Tell came from the Alps, Hofer slept on the cold slopes of the Tyrol, Owen Glendower's fires burned on the peaks of Snowden, and John of Ziska died in the mountain gorges of Bohemia.

Andorra, the oldest Republic in the world, is cradled in the Pyrenees; San Marino sleeps in the Apennines; and Switzerland stands on its alpine gateway, the true sentinel of European freedom. This same spirit of liberty has a home in the mountains of East Tennessee. It animated the Creeks, Cherokees, and Chickasaws, ere they were forced from their mountain homes and driven across the Mississippi. It inspirited Shelby and Sevier, when descending from their cabins, like mountain lions, they fell upon Ferguson at King's Mountain. It nerved the

loyalists of East Tennessee when at Knoxville they repulsed Longstreet's famous assault.

LEONIDAS C. HOUK was a true son of liberty. Born in the mountainous district of Tennessee, he breathed the pure air of freedom. The eagle that soared in the skies above him and the stag that paraded the leafy dells around him taught him self-reliance. Like Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln, was he nurtured in poverty and schooled by adversity. He was the child of nature, tempered in the shadow of advancing civilization. Read the brief biographical sketch in the Congressional Directory. Concise, simple, admirable—a sketch that may well put the glow of hope into the eye of every American youth, however humble. Twenty-four lines, yet the epitome of the possibilities that await every waif in this great Republic.

The typical American youth of the olden time—barefoot, clad in Kentucky jean, linsey-woolsey, or the product of the home spinning wheel, but with the fire of intellect in his eyes and a face indicating all the intuitions and aspirations of a boy born in the days of Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay. After three months' instruction in an old-field school he becomes his own tutor. Andrew Johnson, then a tailor in a town not far away, had just learned to read and write under the tuition of his devoted wife. Abraham Lincoln, after a year of rail-splitting and his volunteer service in the Black Hawk war, had placed his feet upon the threshold of his eventful career. James A. Garfield was preaching in Campbellite churches after driving mules upon the towpath of an Ohio canal. Seated upon a low bench in the chimney corner of a log cabin, young HOUK draws his knowledge from books conned by the light of flaming pine knots. He has a natural ingenuity which blossoms into

cabinetmaking. Yet, with the aspirations of an intellectual pioneer, he blazes his way into the domain of the law.

Blackstone, Coke, and Kent are digested while shoving his plane at the bench. He practices his profession less than two years when the war of the rebellion breaks out. In an instant his soul is aflame. Imbued with the unionism of Clay and the unswerving fidelity of Jackson, he turns a deaf ear to the siren of secession. Imbued with the patriotism of Shelby and Sevier, he loves not only his native State but the whole country, North and South, East and West. Upon the floor in the loyal convention of East Tennessee and in the field with deadly rifle he fights to preserve its autonomy and to perpetuate its grandeur and blessings. His native hills reëcho the roar of artillery in one of the world's great battles for freedom. Entering the Union Army as a private, within less than a year he wears the straps of a colonel.

Nor does his activity in behalf of his country cease with the war. As an editor he upheld the authority of that quaint-cut but rare gem from the old mine of patriotism, William G. Brownlow. He does more than this. He becomes a member of the convention charged with amending the State constitution, and takes a leading part in the reorganization of the State government, and all his actions are tempered with magnanimity. Forgetting the peculiar ferocity that characterized the war in East Tennessee, his was the first voice raised on Tennessee soil in favor of the restoration of the Confederate soldier to the rights of citizenship.

The Union again thoroughly cemented, he is elected to the judicial bench. For four years is he the judge in the seventeenth circuit. Meantime, as a delegate to the national Republican convention, he favors the nomination for the Presidency

of that illustrious and generous soldier, Ulysses S. Grant. Anon, elected as a Republican to the lower branch of the Tennessee legislature, he receives a striking tribute from his associates. He comes within one vote of being elected speaker in a house strongly Democratic.

Mr. HOUK was first elected to Congress thirteen years ago last November. From that time to the hour of his death this House was his home. His activity, industry, and ability were universally acknowledged. His integrity was unquestioned, his courage unchallenged. As rugged in character as his native hills, his spirit was as free as the mountain air. He was of the old school of statesmen, now, alas, rapidly passing away. He had the tenacity of Andrew Johnson, the iron will of Sevier, the fiery nature of Parson Brownlow, and the simplicity, courage, and common sense of Davy Crockett. He was agressive, yet magnanimous; fearless, but forbearing; unbending, yet generous; prophetic, yet reminiscent; overbearing, but tender; firm, yet genial; quaint, gritty, witty, and original. His arguments were direct and convincing, and there were windrows of logic in his oratory. His syllogisms were compact, his imagery iridescent, and his comparisons trite and delightful. He was quick and quaint at repartee, handling his tongue like a rapier. His aphorisms reflected the glow of his fervor, and his argument was replete with wit and humor.

There was neither haze nor fog in the atmosphere of his intellectuality. His statements were as clear as crystal and his gestures as unique and vigorous as his Anglo-Saxon. A strong anecdotal strain enlivened his logic. His metaphors were as sparkling and refreshing as the morning dew, and his perorations as prismatic as his Cumberland rainbows. Indeed, his speeches recalled scenes in his native mountains. While lis-

tening to his diction you saw vivid flashes of lightning and heard reverberations of thunder in crag-bound gorges; the rain poured from the skies and the mountain streams were swollen to torrents. Anon there were gentle showers. Then the light of the sun streamed through rifts in the clouds. Twilight darkened the dells, and night came on apace. The light of the moon softened the upland scenery. Strains of sweet music arose from secluded cabins, and there was the patter of joyous feet upon the floor. Later on, the merry jest, the mountain song, the clinking cup, and a wild hurrah were heard, with possibly angry words and the sharp crack of a rifle. But with the dawn the birds again twittered in the chinquapins, the rivers in the valleys again mirrored the mountains above them, and the work of another day had begun.

The comparison is not overdrawn. No speeches more telling, more sparkling, and more picturesque than those of the patriot from East Tennessee were ever delivered upon the floor of this House.

Mr. HOUK was as natural a product of her mountains as the ash, oak, and hickory that shade their slopes. He had the solidity of the oak, the elasticity of the hickory, and the toughness of the ash. His nature was as firm in fiber and equally as rare in quality. His mind was as rich in resources as the ridges themselves. Like the mountains, he was ligneous as well as ferruginous. There was iron, coal, and marble in his composition—strength, warmth, and beauty. But above all was his almost peerless patriotism, loyalty, and love of liberty.

Leonidas! The very name is redolent with memories of Thermopylæ. This Leonidas of East Tennessee is worthy of comparison with his Spartan namesake. He was Spartan in nature as well as Spartan in name and fame. Each exhibited the same

spirit. Each stood at his own mountain pass and held back the invader. There was no dross in the loyalty that inspired the little band at Thermopylæ. There was no dross in the loyalty that filled the Union regiments in East Tennessee. It was not death in battle that alone confronted these patriots. It was the ignominious death that awaited them if captured in the fluctuations of the war; for many of them were Confederate conscripts. Listen to the words of LEONIDAS C. HOUK, delivered upon this floor in the Fiftieth Congress:

> It was an easy thing to be loyal in Ohio [turning toward Gen. Grosvenor]. It was easy to be loyal in Michigan [turning to Col. Burrows]. It was a mighty easy thing to be loyal in Vermont [turning to Judge Stewart]. But when it comes to where we live in East Tennessee, where we were in the grip of a great military organization, where all the influences of social life and all the machinery of a State were brought to bear upon us to crush out all human hopes, it was not so easy. Yet the loyal sentiment burned even more brightly in my part of the country throughout the entire war. Sir, I have the honor to represent a district in Congress, although it belongs to the Solid South, that gave more soldiers to the Union Army, according to population, than any other district in the United States. I speak from the record. I dare you to go to the War Department and investigate it. The First and Second districts of Tennessee gave more soldiers to the Union Army than any other two districts in the United States.

Mr. HOUK was warm in his friendships. His personal qualities were most endearing. There was no malevolence in his disposition. His heart throbbed with generosity. He treasured no wrongs. He loved his people as he loved his mountain home. Goldsmith well said:

> Dear was the cot to which his soul conforms,
> And dear that hill that lifts him to the storms.

The interests of his constituents were his interests. On their behalf he never hesitated to fly even in the face of his party. There are men in this House who saw his indignation flame when an attempt to throttle the consideration of the claims of loyal Southerners was made in a House controlled by his political friends. Side by side with men who had been Confederate

soldiers he stood arrayed against the attitude of his party. He detested hypocrisy and never made his bed with Pharisees. He believed in hard fighting on the basis of eternal truth and in his right to secure what was won in the fight.

Mr. Speaker, the death of such a man is a public calamity. He may not have won the fame of a Grundy or of a Clay, but he is full as close to the hearts of the people. His virtues were far greater than his faults. His inspirations were national. He acted well his part in the drama of American life. He came from the land of the skies. He has gone to the land of the skies. The universal amnesty he so generously advocated on earth will there be freely extended to all who are entitled to it. His good deeds are the milestones that mark the pathway of his life. They are plainly visible.

> Others have made roads for us; we make them for still others;
> Christ made a road to the stars for us all.

[Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. LANHAM, OF TEXAS.

Mr. SPEAKER: "Kind words can never die," and a noble, generous deed is imperishable. True sympathy for human misfortune, and a hand ready and willing to help in affliction, are among the pure and undefiled elements which make the world better, and contribute to render moral conduct unspotted. We shall never behold the perfect man, but there are virtues and graces in the lives and characters of all true men which shine forth like the stars.

Certain kind words and a certain generous act of Mr. HOUK, uttered and done long before I became acquainted with him, and

of which I had information through a friend who was the beneficiary thereof, first fastened my attention upon him and commended him to my respect and admiration. There resides in the town where I live, an ex-Tennesseean, a worthy man, from the page of whose memory and gratitude the name of LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK will never be obliterated. What I am about to relate occurred during that unhappy period in our history when the storms of war swept over the land, when the tide of passion and prejudice was at its highest mark, when people of the same State were arrayed in deadly hostility against each other, when even brothers followed different banners "in the focal and foremost fire."

Convictions of patriotic duty impelled these Tennesseeans to espouse different causes—the one to enlist in the Union, and the other in the Confederate army. It happened in the fates of war, that the latter was captured, and while *en route* to a Federal prison was seen by Col. HOUK. The prisoner was poor and helpless and hopeless. Col. HOUK talked to him kindly, sympathetically, and tenderly—commiserated his misfortune with that chivalric spirit which prompts the true soldier to "raise the foe, when in battle laid low"—inquired as to his necessities, and proffered him substantial aid in the shape of money, to alleviate the privations of prison life.

This was at first declined for the reason that it might never be possible to repay it—that they might never meet again; but this noble and generous man would take no denial of his charity and would listen to no declination of his kindness. He took from his pocket a liberal amount of current money of the United States, and over all remonstrance insisted upon its acceptance. How useful that money was, what a real benison it brought to the long and weary days of subsequent incarceration, only that

prisoner and those who have undergone a similar experience can describe. I have frequently borne grateful messages to Mr. HOUK from this recipient of his generosity, assured him of the continued appreciation of his kindness, and how lasting were the personal esteem and affectionate remembrance in which he was held. These messages he would receive with satisfaction, but exceeding modesty, reflecting in his words and manner the grand and glorious rule of conduct, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

My subsequent acquaintance with Mr. HOUK and my observation of his course convinced me that this was but an illustration of the gentleness and kindliness of his nature. I have often listened to his earnest and eloquent appeals upon this floor in behalf of his unfortunate countrymen in the South who had lost their property by the ravages of war. Strong as was his devotion to the Union cause, he was ever ready to speak kindly and deal gently with those who differed from him, and he seemed never to forget that they were of and among his people.

Mr. HOUK was a conspicuous figure in the House, as he was one of the most prominent Republicans in the whole South. He always received attention when he participated in discussion. There was a directness and positiveness about his methods and mannerism which challenged respectful notice even from those who disagreed with him. His history and record testify that he was a remarkable and extraordinary man. Contending, as he had to do in his youth, with adversity, prosecuting his studies, rudimentary and professional, under great difficulties, he was wonderfully successful, and demonstrated in his career, to an unusual degree, the possibilities of typical American manhood. His achievements are object lessons to

the ambitious youth of our country, and teach them what energy and industry and unyielding purpose, fostered by the genius of our institutions, may accomplish.

I must leave it to others better qualified, to portray the general excellencies of his character and to suitably describe the elements that combined to make him a man of note and merit. My purpose is to perpetuate the fact that he observed and obeyed the "new commandment, that ye love one another;" to record a magnanimous trait, charming and beautiful, which distinguished his life and conduct; to show that he had a warm and compassionate heart, easily touched at the sight of the calamity of his brother man, and quick to respond in relief. Such a virtue is worthy of all commemoration.

What nobler, sublimer attribute can attach to humanity than that which leads its possessor "to feel another's woe" and minister to its necessity? What higher type of duty discharged can adorn the life of any man than the exemplification of practical benevolence?

> "What writest thou?" The vision raised its head,
> And, with a look made of all sweet accord,
> Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
> "And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"
> Replied the angel.
> Abou spoke more low,
> But cheerly still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
> Write me as one who loves his fellow-men."
> The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
> It came again, with a great wakening light,
> And showed the names whom love of God had blest;
> And, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

[Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. O'FERRALL, OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: For eight years I served in this House with LEONIDAS C. HOUK; for four years I was associated with him on the Committee on Elections.

Service on this floor with a fellow member, however long, may not enable you to form an intelligent opinion of his character or ability, but the intimate relations which necessarily spring up in the committee room of one of the leading committees of this House, where day after day running through an entire Congress you are brought in close association with him, gives you an opportunity to study him as an open book before you and place your estimate upon him.

And thus it was in the committee room where I served so long with this distinguished man, more than in this Hall, that I studied him and learned to know him, and I think to know him well.

In the early part of that service I was impressed with his quick perception and the high order of his ability. His mind was always active, never sluggish. He reached his conclusions with rapidity and then maintained them with great power.

In debate he was aggressive, but always fair; strong, yet just to his adversary; he hit hard blows, but always in a manly way; he was adroit, but took only such advantages as were legitimate and proper.

He was a Republican of the most earnest kind—his nature was earnest, his manner was earnest, he was the personification of earnestness—and while at times I thought, as one differing with him politically, that his zeal for his party principles led

him into extreme positions, I never for a moment questioned his sincerity and honesty.

He was at all times open, frank, and candid. He was a stranger to duplicity and scorned in his very soul the ways of deceit and dissimulation. He feared not power and cringed not at its feet, and despised the sycophant. He was brave, courageous, and chivalrous.

He loved his people and guarded with jealous care their interests. The rights of the lowliest constituent were as sacred in his eyes as those of the loftiest. He would battle as valiantly for the humble cottager as for the princely lord of broad acres.

He was not only watchful of the interests of his own district, but time and again have I seen him rushing to the support of his colleagues when they were engaged in contests over matters affecting their districts, and, as other gentlemen have already said, in all claims for relief which came up from the Southern section of this land—a land blighted by the hot sirocco of war, desolated by the ravages of civil strife—the energies of LEONIDAS C. HOUK were exerted and his strong voice was raised in their behalf.

Sir, though we traveled political paths as wide apart as the poles, I regarded this distinguished Tennesseean as a model Representative and worthy of all the honors which his people showered upon him.

Passing now from him as a Representative, I wish to speak briefly of him as a man. I say briefly, for my time is short.

In disposition he was all sunshine ; his face was radiant with good nature, and he ever met you with a cheerful greeting and kind word. His heart was all warmth, and his breast was filled with the milk of human kindness. He delighted in helping

others, and no friend ever sought a favor at his hands without receiving it if in his power, and if impelled to decline, his manner was so gracious as to make even his refusal delightful.

It is no wonder, Mr. Speaker, that those of us who knew him as a member of this House miss him; we miss his familiar figure and genial face; we miss him in debate; we miss him as a Representative and a friend.

It is no wonder that the bar, of which he was long a member, should declare in resolutions that "he was, and of necessity must have been, a remarkable man," and that "he was esteemed and honored by his political brethren as a brilliant member of his party, and his intellect and ability were always respected by his opponents."

He had represented his district for six consecutive terms and had been elected for his seventh term to this Congress when suddenly he was cut down, and we now lay aside our public duties, calm the tempest of debate, forget the acrimony of political strife, obliterate party lines, and, with our minds filled with the most pleasant recollections of him, we gather here in this Hall, where his voice, now stilled, was so often heard, to pay our tributes to his memory.

When I parted with him at the close of the second session of the Fifty-first Congress little did I think, as he grasped my hand and bade me good-bye, that I was parting with him forever. He seemed to be in excellent health and his spirits were buoyant, while his eye beamed with friendship and in his face were reflected the rays of the sunshine that ever lit up his big heart.

Sir, God's ways we know not. His ways are not man's ways. If we could have averted the blow, or turned aside the death shaft, or dashed the poisoned cup from him before, unconscious

of its deadly contents, he pressed it to his lips, oh, how gladly we would have done so! But God willed it otherwise, and there was no human hand to rescue him and no human voice to warn him. He quaffed unconsciously the poisoned potion and with it death, and in a few fleeting hours his spirit winged its flight to the throne above. Love could not stay it, tears could not arrest it, prayers could not hold it—God took it.

Mr. Speaker, another has said:

> There is a voice from the tomb sweeter than song; there is a remembrance of the dead to which we turn even from the charms of the living; these we would not exchange for the pleasures or the bursts of revelry.

And so while we mourn the loss of our brother, there comes back to us from his grave, lately strewn with love's flowers, bedecked with love's garlands, and watered with love's tears, a sweet remembrance of his brilliant intellect, his sturdy character, his genial nature, his generous bearing, and his manly life. We will cherish his virtues and chisel deep his memory upon the tablets of our hearts. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. BRECKINRIDGE, OF KENTUCKY.

Mr. SPEAKER: The life and career of our late colleague are only possible in a free country; and yet they are so frequent in our country that they excite no special remark. It is not that an humble man, from poor beginnings, makes distinction that marks it as unique, for that is common in all countries. There are no barriers so high and so strong that can not be surmounted or broken through by him who is endowed with natural power and ambitious aspirations; but that a man should be mechanic, soldier, lawyer, judge, and statesman in a comparatively short

life, is only possible in a community where manhood is the sole requisite for recognition, and in a country that has not been divided into special pursuits—separated into fixed classes.

We reproduce in our country and in our generation the peculiarity of Grecian and Roman liberty, that the Senate is full of soldiers and the soldiery crowded with Senators; that he who is able to lead men, not merely in battle but in the discipline of the army, to care for them in camp, to provide for their wants, minister to their necessities, inspire their courage, keep alive their enthusiasm, can carry into civil life the qualities which give success, can organize party following, can make means sufficient to accomplish ends, can succeed in the contests upon the floors of deliberative bodies, as well as in the charge where belching cannon resists victory. In other words, in a country where every man is free, opportunity is given to merit in every walk of life, and that is all that merit has the right to ask or needs to have conferred upon it.

The life of our late colleague was not the life that can be led by a weak man. Success does not come in a strong country, among stalwart people, to the weak. He may have had faults; they were not faults of weakness. In a country like East Tennessee, that beautiful and exquisite country, with those landscapes which fill their valleys with sunshine and beauty, with those mountains that demonstrate the power and the glory of the Creator, no man rises to leadership save he who is blessed with strength of brain and brawn. They may follow him who has faults; they will not follow a coward, a weakling, or a palterer.

That a poor orphan boy, left to the heritage of obscurity and poverty, making a stride upward in becoming a cabinetmaker, should dominate those people for fourteen years, receiving with

increased majorities the renewed commission of their approbation and confidence, demonstrates more than any words of his colleagues that he was a man of vigor, of resource, of courage, of sincerity, of power.

It is somewhat curious how often the Lord gives the great work of the world into the hands of the orphan. If we take the lives of the workers of mankind, we must be struck with the fact how often it is to the hands of the fatherless that the heaviest and most skillful work has been committed.

Whether it is that in some mysterious but real way He takes the place of the father, or whether it is that the woman is more mighty than we presume, and that she in her loneliness is given an added power by having taken away from her the limitations of wifehood and put upon her in increased burden the duty of motherhood, I do not undertake to determine; but it is true that there is something in orphanage of itself that is developing, inspiring, and stimulating, something that gives to early boyhood the resolution of manhood and to early manhood the intrepidity of heroism.

It is in itself a great educator, and we who have had the benefit of college and of school, who have been blessed with libraries from our earliest youth, whose sweetest memories go back to the crowded shelves of a great library which a venerable and learned man illumined with his love and his learning, sometimes belittle that higher education which, in the buffetings of adverse fortune, by the struggles of adversity, through the counteracting influences and agencies that poverty creates, fits the man for the highest work in life.

What is it to be educated, save to be fit to do that which under the providence of God we are called to do? It may be that we are fashioned and tempered in the best forms of fac-

tories. It may be that we are hammered into qualifications amid the storms of adversity upon the anvil of poverty. I sometimes hear of self-made men. There are no other sort of men that do anything in life. Opportunities may be given for quicker and better workmanship; but in the end and in the substance each man makes himself, and upon each man is put the responsibility of his life and his work.

In looking, too, at the life of this our colleague there is to me another affecting fact. I believe in the dignity of human labor. I believe in the glory of the coronal of honest sweat; and if there be any mechanical labor that is more than any other touching to me, it is that of him who works in wood. There is one honest shop that is in history the perfection of integrity—the carpenter shop on Galilee. He who works in wood must, if he be inspired of higher and spiritual truths, take on something of that life which gave itself for others.

In the day of division he adhered to the Union.

It was easy to be loyal elsewhere, as he said. I know something of how hard it was to be loyal in East Tennessee. In that land, where the very hearthstone was broken by the terrible plowshare of civil strife and the backlog splintered by the cannon ball of civil combat, it was often hard for a man to follow his convictions.

And in the troublous times that followed the war, in the times that were sadder and harsher because there was only silent submission, which is infinitely more painful than armed resistance, in those sad days it was a hard place to live. During all those years, in war and peace, he followed his convictions, giving up no principle, always earnest in utterance, holding the confidence of the people among whom he lived and having before him the hope of a closer Union. That closer

Union we will turn over to our children; and the principles on which it is based we give to the world. Not merely Union, but liberty and equality.

Standing to-day in this august Hall of the Representatives of sixty-five millions of people, what is the best plea for our existence? Not that we should be free, not that our civilization should be preserved to us only, but that in a sense that is real we are making for the world a better freedom, a higher civilization, a nobler life, and that we will render possible to all nations that which rendered his career possible, binding the world together in the bonds of brotherly freedom upon the simple but sublime principle of the equality of manhood. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. DOLLIVER, OF IOWA.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not a vain service that we render here to-day. It is true that the words we speak here and the tributes of affection we bring here may speedily pass away. The tragedy of human life is made all the more pathetic by the certain dealing of time with all we do and all we say. Of the hundreds who in a century have been enrolled in this House nearly all are forgotten, and, living or dead, have literally passed from the memory of the world. There are a score of portraits and statues in this Capitol which already need the research of the curious student to recall the statesmen and popular leaders whom an earlier generation thought worthy of an historic place in marble and on the canvas. They are almost as helpless as the figures of the great of other ages that are dug up in the débris of ruined cities. They illustrate the impressive lesson that all the transient dignities of earth must put off the robes of worldly dis-

tinction in the presence of the grave. Yet we ought not to withhold from the record of our proceedings the words of eulogy with which we are accustomed to show our sense of loss in the death of our associates.

I leave to others to collect from the history of his times the memorials of Judge HOUK'S activity and influence in public affairs. It was given to him to bear an honorable part in those memorable years when the nation was brought to trial for its life. The region in which he lived was torn by civil strife in a sense unknown on either side of the border States. In the mountains of Tennessee, Kentucky, Maryland, and Virginia, where loyalty was not diseased by the infection of slavery, the war came to the very doors of the people, dividing churches, estranging families, and adding to the horror of blood the nameless bitterness of civil passion. It was an ordeal that tested the manhood of the mountains, and I never look upon the summits of my native Alleghanies without a sense of gratitude to God that in the hour of the national trial they stood like a wall of solid rock for the national unity and the emancipation of the slave.

The State of Tennessee, like Virginia, was torn from the Union by questionable methods and was attached to the Confederacy. But the mountaineers of East Tennessee, like the mountaineers of West Virginia, refused to participate in the lawless proceedings. They loved liberty, hated slavery, and by an instinct shared by the humble and lowly of the whole world they clung to the Union and followed the national armies with a faith that never faltered. The times produced an array of fearless men, who comprehended with clear sagacity the direction of events. Often in the progress of the nations the things that are hidden from the wise and prudent are revealed

to the faithful and devoted hearts. So that it is no miracle that the cabins of Tennessee and Virginia had a more perfect understanding of the question at stake than the colonial palaces of the South, where the eyes of men were holden, that they could see neither the future of the slave nor the manifest destiny of their country.

Judge HOUK, already risen from the servitude of hard surroundings to a position of influence at the bar and before the people, early enlisted in the Union Army and was shortly afterwards commissioned as colonel of a regiment which he recruited among the neighbors who lived about him. His record as a soldier was full of gallant service. His public career on the national field lay in a time and place that called for definite ideas and fixed convictions. He was lacking in neither. He was always ready to give a reason for his faith. He was a partisan and a believer in free and open speech. He gave the people the best thoughts that were in him in a style which, if it lacked the artifice of the schools, was never wanting in the nervous force of natural eloquence. His people trusted him with a confidence that neither doubted his abilities nor suspected his motives, as his majorities, increasing steadily year by year, sufficiently attest.

He was an ideal popular orator, speaking to his people in the common metaphors of their daily speech and bringing to the level of the humblest firesides the largest questions of national politics. Not infrequently he entertained the House by his quaint figures, drawn from the life of his own people, as in the last Congress, when he pronounced the argument of his colleague in an election case as "hog tight and horse high." It had the unmistakable flavor of the stump, but it easily caught the attention of the House. He was not a despiser of the

stump—that peculiar institution which takes us back to primitive backwoods days. He shared with Horace Greeley the opinion of the stump expressed in a recent publication in the Century Magazine of an old lecture on Abraham Lincoln:

> In the absence of the stump I doubt the feasibility of maintaining institutions more than nominally republican. But the stump brings the people face to face with their rulers and aspirants to rule, compels an exhibition and scrutiny of accounts and projects, and makes almost every citizen, however heedless and selfish, an arbiter in our political controversies, enlisting his interest and arousing his patriotism. The allowance of a monarch, exorbitant as it is, falls far below the cost of choosing a President. But the acquaintance with public affairs diffused through a canvass is worth far more than it costs.

Judge HOUK brought into this House the skill of a trained debater. His tongue was sharp as a sword, and while he never poisoned his words, he was for years a recognized master of all the arts of parliamentary warfare. His personal relations on both sides of the House were inspired by a kindly sentiment which, as is happily so often the case here, forgot the differences of politics and the acrimony of partisan contentions. Possibly this is only characteristic of American politics, for Max O'Rell, that amiable critic of nations, has been pleased to find our public life free from the touch of the universal malice which turns the politics of his own country into a standing quarrel.

I have many reasons to remember the cordial good will with which Judge HOUK took my hand when I came here a stranger and entered upon the perplexing business in which we are engaged. He was a friend, ready in sympathy and disinterested in counsel. The news of his death brought to my heart a personal affliction, and I have taken a part in the exercises of this hour because I wish to leave in the record of this memorial ceremony a public tribute to one whose memory I cherish with a sincere admiration.

Death has already begun to do for this Congress the fatal work that in the last filled so many days with the signs of mourning. As these solemn announcements are made from time to time, I often think of a venerable figure now gone from the noise of life, who, when the death of an eminent statesman was announced here, sadly recalled with profound feeling the words of the old monk, in Southey's narrative, as he showed to a serious traveler in the Escurial Titian's famous picture of the Last Supper. "I have sat," said he, "daily in sight of that picture for now nearly threescore years. During that time my companions have dropped off, one after another, all who were my seniors, all who were my contemporaries, and many or most of those who were younger than myself. More than one generation has passed away, and there the figures in the picture have remained unchanged. I look at these until I sometimes think that they are the realities and we are the shadows." [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. HAUGEN, OF WISCONSIN.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is a laudable custom that calls us together this afternoon to pay a passing tribute to the memory, the service, the friendship, of our departed associate.

LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK led an eventful life; eventful to himself, to his State, and to the Nation. Born in a humble home and spending his early years among the honest yeomanry of Tennessee, earning his livelihood by the sweat of his brow, he became from childhood imbued with those sympathies for the humbler walks of life, and that respect and consideration for that large majority of our citizens, the toiling masses, which

was ever present to his mind in his legislative work. He was a true representative of the people. There was no false pride about him, and I have heard him on this floor allude touchingly to the struggles of his early life and his humble surroundings.

He was too loyal to himself to seek to appear in any but his true character. He indulged in no shams. He was ever true and loyal to that large majority who can neither live in palaces nor dress sumptuously, but who are the creators of wealth, and who form that substantial basis upon which our whole social and political fabric rests. He was in touch with the masses from the day of his birth.

Learning early to respect labor, he instinctively abhorred and detested slavery, and when it came to the arbitrament of arms to keep that institution alive, there was but one choice for a man of his natural convictions to pursue.

Surrounded on all sides with disloyalty, Freedom mustered a gallant band of East Tennesseeans, devoted to liberty and humanity, and in that band of noble and immortal patriots young HOUK became a leader of thought and of action.

It can not be estimated how valuable was this assistance, from within the very ranks of the Confederacy, to the Northern cause. To them Tennessee owes the credit of retaining, at least as far as their section of the State went, loyalty to the Union.

We are still too near the time of the conflict and the political struggles which followed to look with impartial eyes upon the leaders in that important drama. But when the great struggle for liberty and for the preservation of the Union shall assume that position in our history, as does Scotch-English border warfare in the history of Great Britain, some Walter Scott

will immortalize that band of noble patriots, who, breaking through the prejudices of their surroundings, saved the honor of East Tennessee.

Mr. HOUK was a natural leader among men. He was instinctively a "democrat," using that word in its primary and noble sense. He led men, not by imperiousness, but because he was in full and complete sympathy with them. They knew they could trust him at all times, for their cause was his, and his very heart and being were devoted to the elevation and improvement of their conditions, as far as legislation can effect that purpose. He was not chimerical, but practical. He possessed a sound judgment and indomitable courage in execution. He was of a genial and generous disposition and forgetful of himself to serve a friend. And to him there was no dearth of warm and enthusiastic friends.

Serving with him on the Committee on Elections of the last Congress, I learned to love and admire him for his devotion to what he believed to be right, and the generosity with which he met those whose opinions differed from his own.

Mr. HOUK was a partisan. In public life he could not be otherwise. But his party contentions on this floor, although at times earnest and even heated, never approached personal animosity, and never followed him beyond the doors of this Chamber. He attacked the principles of his adversary, not his person.

He was an earnest and at the same time entertaining speaker, zealous for his cause and of his rights. No man had a higher sense of national honor than he, and he was an impassioned advocate of the rights of those who held legal claims against the Government and severely rebuked that economy which could be attained only by doing injustice to individuals. To him a refusal on the part of Congress to make necessary provision for

the payment of honest and unquestioned claims was a disgrace to the country.

Simple in manner and approachable at all times, he kept in close touch with his friends and neighbors, and his death was lamented by thousands of his constituents, who wept, we are told, at his open grave as they would at the grave of a brother.

Mr. HOUK had for years before his death been in feeble health. But he was a cheerful sufferer, uncomplaining, devoted to his duties, and with that hopefulness of the future which accompanies a just and upright life.

To such men as our departed friend the dissolution of the mortal body is merely the release of that soul, which—

> * * * Secured in her existence, smiles
> At the drawn dagger, and defies its point.
> The stars shall fade away, the sun himself
> Grow dim with age, and Nature sink in years;
> But thou shalt flourish in immortal youth,
> Unhurt amidst the war of elements,
> The wrecks of matter and the crush of worlds.

[Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. COVERT, OF NEW YORK.

Mr. SPEAKER: In the great sisterhood of States constituting the Republic, the Commonwealth of Tennessee stands out prominently in exceptional directions. Nature has been most lavish in the dispensation of her gifts to this favored region.

Her natural resources have given her an exceptional present prosperity and the added promise of a still more successful future.

But rich as Tennessee is in her mineral and agricultural resources, she is richer still in the character of her people.

Her citizenship is composed of a strong and sturdy race of men, whose progressive spirit has successively supplemented the work which nature so generously commenced.

The character of a people may very readily be determined by the manner of men who are sent to act for them at the national capital.

The State of Tennessee has been represented here ever since I have had any knowledge of the conditions by a delegation of thoroughly equipped men, alert in action, earnest in endeavor, and patriotic in purpose. Of such mold and of such character was he who for many years represented the Knoxville district, and through whom the needs and wishes of his people were so eloquently and so effectively voiced in this Chamber.

It is not my purpose to speak in detail of the life and public services of him who, living, we greeted as a friend and whose memory we are met to-day to honor. This task has been most graciously and lovingly performed by his colleagues on both sides of this House.

We find from what they have told us that the lives of some men have about them the elements of romance, and the career of him who up to the close of the last Congress was a familiar figure in this Hall is an illustration of the truth of this statement.

His cramped and straitened boyhood among the mountains of East Tennessee; his studious young manhood; his single-handed battle against "those twin jailers of the human heart, obscure birth and iron fortune;" his success at the bar; his career in the legislature of his State; his elevation to a judgeship; his prompt and patriotic service in the field, when, torn and disrupted by the civil war, East Tennessee stood loyal to the Union, and, finally, his long and distinguished career in this House—all

have been detailed to us to-day by those who knew him best, and so knowing, loved and honored him most.

The life record of LEONIDAS C. HOUK has about it not only the element of romance, but, more than this, it has about it all the distinctive elements of the best and truest heroism.

I shall detain this House to-day while I speak only of one element in a character which embodied very much of what was admirable—that of deep and earnest sincerity—a quality somewhat lacking in some, at least, of those who hold official position to-day. Judge HOUK was, above all else, if I judge him correctly, an eminently sincere man.

He felt deeply and gave honest expressions to his feelings. He was a Republican from sincere conviction, and he never hesitated to make an honest fight against his political opponents.

If he had enemies to punish, the chastisement was inflicted in the open field, and without any empty prior negative declaration. In reaching any one of the various positions of honor he was called upon to fill, no prior mortgages upon his official action were ever given as means of attaining success, and no places or positions were used by him as personal possessions to be bestowed simply as rewards for personal support. If he ever made a voluntary pledge to be absolutely fair and just in the discharge of any official duty (and I doubt if he ever regarded it as at all necessary to make such a declaration), that pledge was not an empty form, but was an obligation to be most sacredly observed.

He fought for the substantial advancement of his party upon what he believed to be the higher and better lines of action, and he was not of those who think a faction triumph, resulting in personal success, better and more important than a party victory resulting in a supposed general good.

The death of any man would fail in one of its greatest purposes if it failed to lead the living into processes of examination and comparison.

Here, then, comes one of the chiefest lessons taught by the death of this sincere and outspoken Tennesseean.

Here, then, is the test. Let the public man of to-day, however exalted his official position, ask himself if he has the manly honesty, the simple sincerity, which characterized him of whom I speak.

Let him look into the clear mirror of our dead friend's character, and see if that mirror reflects back his own likeness.

> His words were bonds, his oaths were oracles,
> His love sincere, his thoughts immaculate,
> His heart as far from fraud as heaven from earth.

And now the curtain has fallen upon this stirring life drama, which, commencing in the mountains of Tennessee, had its action alike in the crowded court room, amid scenes of blood and carnage upon the battlefield, and closed with the exacting duties of legislation at the Federal capital. That all of Judge HOUK'S official obligations were well and worthily performed is abundantly proven by his long retention in the public service. That these services were gratefully appreciated and that he who rendered them was loved and respected is more than demonstrated by the universal sorrow felt at the announcement of his sudden death.

The State of Tennessee has lost one of her bravest, manliest sons, and the Congress of the United States one of its most zealous and faithful members.

There is a grief too sacred almost to be publicly alluded to, and I shall not speak of the nearer and deeper personal loss sustained by the widow and the fatherless, whose only heritage is

the record of honor bequeathed to them by the devoted husband and fond father, who is to-day so deeply mourned.

Under the sod of the State he loved so well and to whose service he ungrudgingly gave the best years of his manhood, lies all that is mortal of our late associate.

An active, earnest life is ended. The shock of the battlefield and the sharp conflicts of professional and political strife are over; and the jurist, the soldier, and the statesman at last finds rest and peace in an honored grave.

> Here lurks no treason, here no envy swells,
> Here grow no damned grudges, here no storms,
> No noise—but silence and eternal sleep.

[Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. BROSIUS, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: I comply all the more cheerfully with the request with which the friends of the deceased have honored me to make some observations on this occasion, to which many others might perhaps with greater propriety address themselves, because I felt a sincere respect for our friend when living, and, dead, I venerate his memory.

When I first saw him on this floor with his powers in a state of exertion—in action on his chosen field—and noted the vigor of his mind, the celerity of his thought, and the clear-cut, incisive character of his debate, in connection with the peculiar and grotesque elements in his style, which embroidered the web of his argument, I thought he was a singularly interesting and picturesque character. When I learned something of his career—how firm his convictions, and how loyal he was to them; his love of justice and equality and his splendid fidelity to these

principles—I found so much in him to admire that he never ceased to engage my interest and command my respect.

Born in a cabin, cradled in poverty, schooled in adversity, apprenticed to toil, spurred by the incentive of difficulties, succeeding by tireless endeavor, winning esteem and confidence by stainless probity, until by bearing the cross of hard circumstances he won the victor's crown of just applause for having deserved well of his country.

Beginning a career by gazing at the stars of night through rifts in the roof that sheltered his pillow, and ending it with stars of nobleness glittering on his brow, has been largely the story of American greatness, and such is the history of the friend whom we mourn to-day.

How instructive the lesson of such a life. To contemplate it and emulate it is the only way to make it profitable to us. Death comes like a faithful schoolmaster with the open book of a closed life, and assigns the lesson which we must study or lose its teaching. In contributing one little flower of affectionate remembrance to the chaplet with which the appreciation and esteem of those who knew him longer and better than I have garlanded his memory, I can not do better than to emphasize the pregnant lesson of his life. In doing so, I will seek nothing in his character or career, if anything there be, that does not command my respect and deserve my praise. In the presence of death all voices are silent save those of sincere sorrow and respectful eulogy. Criticism is mute. Censure has no tongue. This is the immunity of the grave.

No finer tribute can ever be paid to our system of free institutions, founded upon the equality of man, than such a career as this occasion presents for our contemplation. Among the glories of American political and social life which our history

will illustrate and perpetuate there is not one that will shine down the ages with a more supernal splendor than that distinguishing character of our institutions which saves us from the fixed horizontal strata common in the Old World, through which few ever pass from below upward, and gives us instead a social formation as mobile as the sea, where the lowest drop, winged with merit, may rise until it glitters on the topmost crest.

This is attested in a most striking manner by the great number of aggressive and effective men by whom our public life has been adorned who were of humble origin and scanty scholarship, with no degrees to boast of and no diplomas to show.

From its first meeting, in 1774, to its last, in 1788, it is said three hundred and fifty-four men sat in the Continental Congress, and two-thirds of them were self-made men. Of the seven or eight thousand men who have sat in Congress since 1789, many more than half rose from obscurity to eminence by their own unaided exertions.

Our departed friend is only the latest of a long and distinguished roll who have made our history luminous with a glow that only comes from characters which have had all base alloys melted out in the forge fires of adversity. No adventitious aids—neither birth, nor rank, nor fortune—helped him upward toward the clear-aired heights he reached and kept. His allies were parts and poverty. He climbed with beak and claw. The spurs he wore in the tournament of life were fashioned by his own effort and buckled to his heels with his own hands.

He early learned that the genius of success was the genius of toil. The only Aladdin's lamp he ever knew was a heroic soul, that no difficulty could ever daunt. His courage never sank before an adverse cast of fortune. His fortitude never failed to

honor the heaviest draft made upon it. His industry was all-conquering, and his ambition invincible.

He stood so high in the hearts of the rugged mountaineers of East Tennessee, whom he so long represented, and whom he generously helped in ways which gratitude will preserve in perennial green, because of the splendid cluster of heroic qualities which were seen and admired by all his people.

In this elevated arena, which was the scene of his latest exertions and most enduring triumphs, his characteristic attributes, the virile qualities which made him a strong personality, were observed and felt by all. When inspired by conviction and commanded by duty he turned neither to the right nor the left, but straight as an arrow in its flight went he to the task before him. He was a hard fighter, but an honest one. The man who broke a lance with him was sure

> To know the joy that warriors feel
> In foemen worthy of their steel.

The fiercer the onset and the deeper the combat the better the field was suited to his powers. The greater the issues involved, the stronger the passions aroused, the more tempestuous the debate, the more he delighted in the encounter. He was rigged for storms. And herein is the trial proof of man's mettle.

> The sea being smooth,
> How many shallow bauble boats dare sail
> Upon her patient breast, making their way
> With those of nobler bulk?
> But let the ruffian Boreas once enrage
> The gentle Thetis, and, anon, behold
> The strong-ribbed bark through liquid mountains cut.
> * * * * *
> Where then's the saucy boat
> Whose weak untimbered sides but even now
> Co-rival'd greatness? Either to harbor fled,
> Or made a toast for Neptune.

He was a strong-ribbed bark, and the sea was wild and raging; indeed if he did not outride the storm.

But he had none of the pride that is ashamed to yield when convicted of error; none of the obstinacy that delights in contention for its own sake.

If he was fierce toward his antagonist, it was only while the battle was on. If he was quick with the retort, it was only when much enforced that he emitted the spark and was straightway cold again. If the keen lash of his sarcasm sometimes drew blood, it was only from those whom he believed were cringing sycophants of injustice and wrong. If he sometimes showed the heat of passion, he never betrayed the poison of malice. The antagonist whom he fought he could afterward love like a brother. He never nursed contention, nor sought fresh cause of enmity.

As the old Saxons covered their hearth fires at the sound of the evening curfew, so was he always ready at the end of each day to cover the embers of its struggle and strife. I have heard it said he had charity enough to love the man that hated him and to forgive an enemy. It is one of the high tests of a great soul that it foregoes revenge and dares to forgive an injury. He would touch palms and hearts with men of all views as long as they were sincere, and he was apt to cultivate the flowers that bloom over the walls of party politics. I have mistaken the man if he did not feel, in the calms that followed the storms of controversy, toward all men, friends and foes, that beautiful sentiment which holds the human family in the bonds of unity and love—

That we are children of the same father, traveling toward the same home, and hoping to sit down at last at the same banquet, and therefore we should love one another.

It is thus seen what an instructive career has closed on earth. He did not live man's appointed time. The mysterious clock, which the Angel of Life wound up to run three-score years and ten before handing the key to the Angel of Resurrection, ran down before the lapse of the allotted time. But the bounds that are fixed to the duration of life do not always measure its worth. This career, though cut off in the midst of its usefulness, has not failed to teach that the path of duty is the upward way, that—

> Not once or twice in our fair land's story,
> The path of duty was the way to glory.

Is there yet a word that I can add that will carry on its wings solace to the bruised hearts of those who knew our friend best and loved him most? There is a tradition that among the Seneca Indians a singularly beautiful belief prevailed, that when a loved one died if they caught a singing bird and, binding it with messages of love and affection, released it over the grave of the departed, it would not fold its wings or close its eyes until it reached the spirit land and delivered the messages to the loved and lost. So may the friends who mourn to-day bind with messages of love the birds that are singing in their hearts songs of homage and affection, and, releasing them at the grave of the departed, may enjoy the solace of believing that they will not fold their wings until they reach the spirit land and deliver the messages to the loved and lost. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. TOWNSEND, OF COLORADO.

Mr. SPEAKER: In the death of Judge HOUK the people of his district and the State of Tennessee lost an able and efficient Representative in the Congress of the United States, the whole country lost an eloquent and patriotic statesman, and the Republican party the leader of its forces and the most formidable champion of its principles in the Southern States.

Starting in life without any of the advantages that wealth is supposed to give, without influential friends, his early education a blank, his career furnishes another example of those who have achieved distinction and won success by their own courage, energy, and determination in this free Republic. His early manhood was spent amid the stirring scenes and incidents of the war of the rebellion. He espoused the cause of the Government with all the zeal and ardor of a patriot, and at twenty-six years of age was colonel of a Tennessee regiment in the Union Army.

In no section was there engendered more bitterness of feeling nor more implacable hatred than in East Tennessee at that period. Neighbors, and not unfrequently families, were divided, and as the armies swept over that section, the bitter personal animosities found expression in murders, assassinations, and the wanton and willful destruction of private property. The outrages and wrongs perpetrated upon the Union people of East Tennessee will never be fully written.

Judge HOUK emerged from that struggle a recognized leader and one of the foremost men of his section. He was elected seven times to a seat on this floor and by large majorities,

which testify to the confidence and trust in which he was held by his own people.

His greatest usefulness to his country was in his service upon this floor. He was thoroughly American, and loved liberty and freedom as much as he loved the free air of his native mountains. His highest services were given for free speech, free ballots, and free men. He was admirably equipped for legislative duties. He had a pungent and humorous wit, a bitter sarcasm, a trenchant invective combined with the closest logic and great eloquence, all of which he called to his ready use in debate. He believed in the Republican party, and believed that its doctrines were essential to the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the citizens of the Republic. Protection to American industries and protection to the wages of American labor he believed to be inherited by the Republicans from the Whigs, and his admiration was unbounded for the gallant Whig leaders of his native State. John Bell, Meredith P. Gentry, Neill S. Brown, Gustavus A. Henry, Emerson Etheridge, Bailie Peyton, Nathaniel G. Taylor, Thomas A. R. Nelson, Horace Maynard, and their associate Whig leaders were his ideals of broad and progressive statesmen, and his highest ambition was to be a worthy descendant and representative of the Silver Gray Whigs of Tennessee. He believed in the people of Tennessee, and no representative of that State was ever closer to the people than he. He was a manly man. No shadow ever crossed his personal or political integrity. His love for and confidence in the people of his State, together with his profound conviction and attachment to the Republican party, made him, *ipso facto*, a power in its councils. It would have been better for that party had they had more men of like character and influence in the Southern States.

The emancipation of the slave and the extension of suffrage to the colored man, as a result of the war, produced a political convulsion in the South that was incomprehensible to any other than a resident of that section. It aroused the most bitter and relentless antagonisms to the Republican party. It developed a feeling of caste that was the outgrowth of two hundred years of heredity in the relation of master and servant. Not considering for an instant that the colored man, by reason of fidelity to the Union cause and as a means for his future protection, was entitled to some consideration, his enfranchisement was regarded as a personal insult and humiliation to each individual who had sustained the rebellion.

To make the upholding of Republican principles more difficult, much was done in the matter of administration that would seem to justify the direful predictions that were proclaimed from the rostrum, the press, and the pulpit. Many who were not native and to the manner born were clothed with the power and dignity of officials as representatives of the Federal Government under Republican administrations, and while, as a rule, they were good men and efficient officers, they utterly failed to comprehend the actual social, economic, and political conditions of the South. They became widely known as the Federal ring throughout the Southern States, and undoubtedly hindered, embarrassed, and delayed the extension of Republican principles and the growth and well-being of the Republican party.

Judge HOUK, with his familiarity and personal knowledge of existing conditions, boldly and fearlessly protested against all Federal rings in his own party, and sought to make his party strong by reason of its advocacy of honest and economical government and its liberal, wise, and humane policy toward all

classes, upon a basis of absolute and exact justice without regard to race or color. While protesting against Federal rings on the one hand he raised his voice with equal power and force against all intimidation, violence, rascality, and fraud in elections upon the colored people on the other. He denounced with bitter invective all devices of fraud and suppression of votes.

He, with great eloquence and earnestness, appealed to the people of his section to lay aside their prejudices against an innocent race and recognize their legal rights; to treat them kindly, advise them, impart knowledge and instruction of their political rights and duties; to banish dishonest elections, and bring up their young people to believe that honest government could only be secured by honest elections; to hold the ballot box sacred that the liberties of our people should be perpetuated and endure.

The eloquent voice of Judge HOUK was heard for the Republican party upon this floor and wherever his duty called him at all times in the advocacy of honest government, local, State, and national, and the rule of honest majorities secured by a free ballot and a fair count. And his sudden and untimely death in the prime of life is a loss to that party that is nearly, if not quite, irreparable. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. PEEL, OF ARKANSAS.

Mr. SPEAKER: The cause of the sad gloom we see resting upon the faces of all present, and the apparent gloom upon the walls of this Chamber, is known to us all. There is one conspicuous and well-known member of this body gone, and gone forever; that one is LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK, of Tennessee.

He died at his home in Knoxville, May 25, 1891. The life and character of this distinguished fellow-citizen is as remarkable as honorable. He was born in Sevier County, Tenn., June 8, 1836. His father, a poor mechanic, died when he was but three years old. His mother in a few years married again, but did not increase her financial fortune. Therefore, his early education was much neglected, only going to common country schools three months.

Notwithstanding all these embarrassments and obstacles, we find him educated, not by the polished teacher in the school-room, but by the more rugged road of self-reliance and determination. God had given him a well-balanced brain and a will that knew no defeat. His heart and soul were inspired by that love of character and country which marked his long and useful career. Though fatherless and penniless, he resolved to rise among men. His young mind fed upon all useful literature that his scanty means would afford.

Scarcely in his teens, we find him toiling in the field and shop for support. When night came, though tired and weary, the oil lamp was soon lighted, and his new labors began. Night after night he grappled with the dry and complex maxims of the law, until his mind was tired as his body. Knowing no failure, he pushed on until 1859, when he was admitted to the bar of his native State. His practice grew with the man; the lawyer who met him in a case was soon reminded of the old adage, "Beware of the lawyer with but one book." He continued his chosen profession with courtesy and success until the muttering thunders of war were heard. The time soon came when the public heart was troubled, when all ears were listening for words of wisdom and all eyes were looking for leaders.

It was then that young HOUK was chosen to the loyal conven-

tion of his State, where he distinguished himself for his wisdom and loyalty to the old flag. And when the fierce clash of arms came, he did not wait for high-sounding titles or sparkling uniforms, but shouldered his musket and joined the army for the Union as a private. But it was not long until those over him saw that God had made him for something more than to shoot, and he was promoted to lieutenant in the First Tennessee Infantry. His loyalty to the service and gallantry in the field soon placed him at the head of the Third Tennessee as colonel, in which place he served with like fidelity until compelled to resign on account of ill health.

Not willing to cease his usefulness to the cause of the Union, he connected himself with the press. His writings, like his character, were vigorous, courteous, and strong. In 1864 he again was placed in the field as elector upon the Lincoln and Johnson ticket; was next elected to the State convention that reorganized his State government. When the smoke of the last battle had cleared away and the last soldier had stacked his gun Col. HOUK was elected judge of the seventeenth judicial district of Tennessee, where he served with ability and satisfaction for four years; then he moved to Knoxville and resumed the practice of law. His great public service in the council chamber, in the field, and upon the bench so endeared him to the people of East Tennessee, that he was again called from that profession that he so dearly loved and learned by the midnight lamp to serve his country as a member of the Southern Claims Commission.

From that we find him serving his people as State legislator, in national Republican conventions, elector, etc., until he was elected a member of this body, commencing in the Forty-sixth Congress, succeeding himself to the Forty-seventh, Forty-

eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-first, and Fifty-second Congresses. This long and varied public service shows how dearly he was loved by those who knew him best. He was their adviser, leader, and friend. He was the pride of his people, the idol of his party, and a faithful public servant. Judge HOUK, as he was called, was a Republican in politics; he was not a Republican because he disliked Democrats, but because he believed in the principles of his party. He was a strong advocate at the bar, upon the hustings, or upon this floor; bold and aggressive in his views, yet tolerant, courteous, and kind. His heart was as warm as it was big. He loved his friends; nothing was too good for them that was his. He was a good husband, an affectionate father, an honest man.

Mr. Speaker, East Tennessee was loyal to the Union in our late civil war, while the balance of the State cast her fortunes with the South. The feeling between those who served in the contending armies was bitter and strong. When peace came the Union soldiery in that section largely predominated. The ex-Confederate felt that he had no friend except his comrades in defeat—ostracized, disfranchised, and outlawed. Indeed, these were dark days for him. Judge HOUK, like the brave and noble man he was, was the first in all Tennessee to proclaim from the house top in favor of equal rights for the ex-Confederate. He was the first man to take him by the hand and say, "We are American citizens, under the same flag, entitled to equal rights, legal and political, before the law."

This one act should endear his memory to all mankind. Tennessee, you have lost a true friend, an efficient, faithful servant. He is gone. With you we mourn, and accept his honored son. His death came when least expected; in usual health, at home with those he loved most tenderly, in the beautiful month of

May, when all nature bloomed with full life, by the sad result of accidental poisoning, within a few brief hours he died. So sudden, so quick, that we are forcibly reminded of the lines written by some one:

Life, I know not who thou art;
But this I know, you and I must part,
How, when, and where first we met
I own to me is a secret yet.

It's hard to part with friends so dear;
'Twill cause a sigh, a tear.
Then steal away; give little warning;
Say not good night, but in some brighter clime, good morning.

[Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. RUSSELL, OF CONNECTICUT.

Mr. SPEAKER: I came almost immediately from the burial of a beloved father to take a part in this service. My so recent experience impresses me with the sorrow and the sympathy of this occasion. The spoken word can only faintly express the pathos of feeling. But I gladly give brief speech as a tribute to the memory of a distinguished member of this House, with whom I was intimately associated in two former Congresses. The feeling I would cherish as kind and tender, almost as intimate, towards the son, the younger Mr. Houk, who has become our associate in this Congress. We mourn the departure of the Hon. LEONIDAS C. HOUK, the soldier, the jurist, the statesman, whose patriotism and valor, experience and ability, principle and fidelity gave him the respect and the reward of merit. We assuage sorrow in the presence and the fellowship of the son, whose worth surely has the example, the counsel, and the emu-

lation of a noble sire. So this service appeals to me, as perhaps it may to others, as somewhat singular and duplex in its significance. I join in the expressions of peace and honor to the father, and at the same time in expressions of condolence and recognition to the son.

To me, as one of the youngest members of the Fiftieth Congress, the presence and prestige of the great Unionist from Tennessee were interesting. His acquaintance was sought, his friendship cultivated. He seemed to a young New Englander to represent the sturdy frontiersman of loyalty, and to possess that rugged character which, joining ability and persistent effort, conquered obstacles and accomplished good, wise, and large work for the benefit of his country. And with it all, the kind heart, the tender feeling, the noble emotions of mankind never became calloused or shriveled.

There is not an overabundance of unselfishness among Congressmen. It is sometimes doubted if there is always a surplus of genuineness in political action. Younger members can attest the consideration, the helpfulness, and the encouragement which come to them from their elders in service. LEONIDAS HOUK was one who rightfully receives the acknowledgment of ready and cheerful aid to those associates who sought his counsel. If he had more or less—less as it seems to me—of the individual selfishness which governs in political places, he unmistakably had more than the ordinary degree of genuineness in public action. It was sometimes brusque and aggressive; it was fearless always. It left an impress of conscientious action on an honest belief. It sometimes took a course which might shock the trimming calculator in policy, but it gave to our friend the name of a stalwart in action on his political principle, as he saw the right and as he saw his duty. That one characteristic lives with me as a

memory of LEONIDAS HOUK—genuine courage of action in fidelity to his personal political belief in all matters, great or small. [Applause.]

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ADDRESS OF MR. MCMILLIN, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not my purpose at this late hour, after the exercises have been prolonged, to speak at great length on this occasion. Yet I do not feel inclined to let the opportunity pass of offering my humble tribute to one to whom in life I extended friendship, whose friendship in life I could boast, and whose death I sincerely mourn.

Thirteen years ago Judge HOUK and I came to this Hall together. It saddens my heart, Mr. Speaker, when I think of the changes that have been wrought by the thirteen intervening years. At that time, at one end of this Capitol or the other, there were those great orators, since dead, Ben Hill, Roscoe Conkling, Mat Carpenter, Zach Chandler, Burnside, Beck, and a long line of others who might be mentioned, who have preceded our friend to the tomb. There were still others who have since left these halls, among whom might be mentioned Judge Thurman, McDonald, Kernan, and other illustrious statesmen. I say the scenes have changed since then, and we come now by these exercises to emphasize the fact that after all, and inevitably, our destiny will be that of our dead friend—the tomb.

Judge HOUK came from the State called the "Volunteer State," because of the spirit of her sons, that sent them into the forefront of every conflict where the American citizen was called upon to convert himself into an American soldier. He

came from that beautiful and picturesque portion of the State where the mountains rise to the clouds; a region that can boast that it was the inspiration of the sweetest of all nonscriptural songs ever written, for I have it indirectly from two persons, from John Howard Payne himself, that the inspiration of that incomparable song that has delighted so many hearts and dampened so many eyes, "Home, Sweet Home," was seeing the Indians moving back and forth across the river before they were sent westward to their new reservation.

Judge HOUK was a poor boy, as has been said by more than one speaker this evening. When I look at the long line of those who have become illustrious from an humble and poverty-stricken beginning, I begin to conclude that that against which humanity struggles so very strenuously—poverty—is a blessing rather than a curse to a young man. How many young men do you see who have the ability to satisfy every wish, to gratify every ambition, living without exertion, ever come to that prominence which characterized one who, like the eagle, is shaken off to dare the dangers and the glories of the skies?

Judge HOUK came from Tennessee, noted for her heroism during the Revolutionary war; for it will be remembered by the student of history that when Ferguson sent across the mountains, then a portion of western North Carolina, a statement that if they did not behave themselves he would send over the troops and chastise them, that great governor of Tennessee, and great soldier, Sevier, got with his friend Shelby. They sat down on a fallen log, and there, with that spirit which has been the strength of the American people in the past and is destined to be its bulwark in the future, determined that instead of waiting for Ferguson to send over his troops, they would go and capture Ferguson and his troops; and they did

it at King's Mountain, thus making Revolutionary success possible. It is a region that has sent many poor young men to preëminence.

It is a State where poverty can not impede a young man in his march to preëminence and power, and where wealth has never yet succeeded in aiding any man to preferment.

What record is that of Judge HOUK? Although it has been recounted, let me epitomize it. Born in 1836 and left an orphan, as stated by my distinguished friend [Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky] at three years old; a lawyer, without the benefit of a prior education, except such as research gave without academies or colleges, at twenty-three; a soldier at twenty-five; colonel of his regiment at twenty-six; member of the State constitutional convention at twenty-nine; judge of the circuit court at thirty-one; member of the legislature at thirty-six; elected to Congress when forty-two, and serving six full terms and elected to his seventh before his death. This is a record of which his State, his family, and all poor young men in this country may be proud.

But, Mr. Speaker, there is one incident in the life of Judge HOUK to which I desire to call attention, and upon which I would place special emphasis. We who were either lads or soldiers during the late war know how hard it was to shake off the prejudices that came with or lingered after it.

I remember the first time I saw Judge HOUK. He was then, as he was before and after, a strong believer in the doctrines of the Republican party, and a strenuous advocate of its principles. But there was a conflict raging at that time in Tennessee. One of the questions involved, indeed the main question I may say, was whether those who had borne arms against the Government should have the right to vote restored to them, or

should be forever excluded from the polls. If there was nothing else in his history, if there was nothing else to show the strength of the man and the magnanimity of his nature, the very fact that he stood up then against his party and spoke from one end of the State to the other and assisted greatly in carrying through the proposition to reënfranchise those who had been disfranchised and to make voters of those against whom he had fought, would be sufficient to make the grass grow greener over his tomb as long as I have a heart with which to be grateful. [Applause.]

You may say he was a partisan, and he was. You may say he was a fierce fighter in a political conflict, and he was. I like the partisan; I like the strenuous fighter; I like the man who, in the first place, has intelligence enough to have opinions, but I also like the man who has the courage to avow them. It is no discredit of Judge HOUK in my estimation that he had strong convictions and stood by them. He was not only a strenuous antagonist, but he was as bold as any lion that ever left lair. There never could be any doubt as to where he stood; but after the conflict was ended he was gentle, and then he had a feeling of brotherhood that rose above all politics and a patriotism that stood by him ever. Thus much I know of Judge HOUK, and thus much I know better than any man in this House concerning his action in favor of enfranchisement, for I happened, when I was a law student in 1869, to be present at one of his speeches when he advocated the broad rights of man and put forth the doctrine that, where the strongest efforts had been made to enfranchise those who had recently been in slavery, the men who had done that could never justify themselves in the eyes of their countrymen or of posterity if they at the same time withheld from those who had formerly been

free, whose fathers had fought the war of the Revolution and established the Constitution and carried our country to glory—that they could never justify themselves if they kept those men from the polls whilst others were permitted to go there.

But, Mr. Speaker, having said thus much, I will close by saying that those who knew Judge HOUK best loved him best, and whoever knew him well will say amen when I declare that in all this House and in all the region that knew him, or knew of him, there goes forth a sympathetic palpitation of the heart to those loved ones who are left with a home darkened by his death. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. CHEATHAM, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Mr. SPEAKER: There have already been so many grand and truthful things said about the distinguished deceased that I shall find it difficult to steer clear of the same channels in order to avoid repetition. However, the removal of the name of Hon. LEONIDAS C. HOUK from the membership of this body by the great hand of death was not only a sad and deplorable event with the great State of Tennessee, that had so wisely seen fit to honor him, but his brave, though conservative, and eventful national career, together with the sad manner by which he came to his death, caused the whole country to feel keenly his untimely death. Judge HOUK was in many respects a wonderful man; he did not only manage, with his limited means and opportunities, to elevate himself from the humble walks and conditions of life to a more honorable and exalted plane and there remain with contentment and ease, but he ventured further.

In his struggles along the rugged and thorny pursuits of time, seeking a share of the honors and laurels of this life, he soon

reached the station of usefulness where he had a chance to convince men of the moral and intellectual powers which he possessed. He became an able advocate at the bar, in which sphere he gained for himself a lasting and imperishable reputation, and step by step he ascended the arena of responsibilities and public trust in his State. After serving upon the circuit court bench and in the State legislature with peculiar adaptation and distinction, he was then honored with thirteen consecutive years in this body. Here he tied and endeared to him the hearts of not only his party friends, but all lovers of fair and just legislation, for upon all such issues, in Congress, he was positive, forcible, and outspoken, and on account of his ardent and unqualified devotion to the best interest of the common people of his district and State he was always more than a match for any scheme or combined political forces to defeat him before the people.

I have been familiarly acquainted with Judge HOUK for several years, and there was one particular and grand trait of character about him which I very much admired; out of his broad and liberal heart always poured forth indications of sympathy and willingness to encourage and assist the poor and needy classes of the people, and as such they always looked to him for kind words and protection. The humblest peasant upon the streets could approach him with ease. He was perfectly friendly, courteous, and conservative in his views; he often expressed to me his desire to see our Government assist in some way in the elevation of the poor white and black people of our land. He thought it could best be accomplished through some educational measure by Congress, and although he was thoroughly conversant and alive upon all great issues before this body and the country, he was, nevertheless, awakened and mindful of the small and minor interests of the people.

He always argued with great force and clearness that the black man of this country had rights as an American citizen, and as such they should be respected and protected, and for further example of his interest in the welfare of the colored people, he thoroughly believed that the United States Government should reimburse the depositors the $3,000,000 which they lost in the United States Freedman's Savings Bank. For these liberal and just views the colored people in his district and State and in the United States, as far as they knew him, wish to pay through me this tribute of respect to his memory. They believe with me that such noble-hearted men, such lovers of right and justice to all classes and conditions of men, can not miss their reward in the great and sublime hereafter. [Applause.]

ADDRESS OF MR. EZRA B. TAYLOR, OF OHIO.

Mr. SPEAKER: I desire simply to record the impression made upon me by my friend Judge HOUK during an acquaintance of about twelve years in this Hall. I never saw him elsewhere. When I became a member of this branch of the National Legislature in December, 1880, I was welcomed and warmly greeted by Mr. HOUK, who was then a member, and at the close of the Fifty-first Congress we exchanged words of kindness and separated, not doubting an early reunion in this place.

During the interval between the first salutation and the last farewell I met him almost daily, during the sessions of the House, and was always conscious that his presence was an added pleasure, but I was not aware of the strength of my affection for him till I heard of his sudden death, nor do I now care to analyze the cause of that attachment.

That he was a manly man, brave, generous, faithful, one felt at the first contact; that he was gifted was soon learned. His humor and wit, for he had both, beamed and flashed, but the depth and universality of his sympathetic nature, perhaps the most controlling element in his character, could only be fully known by acquaintance. It was this that so endeared him to those who knew him well. His other qualities excited admiration; this bound him to his friends as a loved and loving brother.

So reluctant to give him up, to feel that our recent parting was final, is my heart that even now I am unable to realize that he is actually gone and will come to us no more. His beaming eye is indeed closed and his kindly voice forever stilled, but it does not seem so; and when the name he bore is called in this Hall, though so often answered by a voice saddened by his loss, I instinctively, for a moment, expect to hear my dear friend's clear, decided response; but it can never be. My poor words are ineffective to express my appreciation of his character or my profound regret at his absence, and silence alone can do justice to my feelings.

ADDRESS OF MR. WILSON, OF KENTUCKY.

Mr. SPEAKER: I shall attempt no unjust praise of the late L. C. HOUK, but wish to briefly state a few facts which will justify the statement that he was true and loyal to friends and country, and was the representative of a political and social sentiment which has prevailed in his section for two generations. In doing this it is necessary to refer to matters incident to the late civil war and which will show that Judge HOUK

was not governed in his political career by selfish and sordid motives, but was a statesman seeking to do what he honestly thought to be for the best interests of his constituents and his State.

It has been said here that he early took grounds in his State that those in rebellion should be restored to all the rights, privileges, and immunities which they had and enjoyed before espousing the cause of rebellion. This fact alone convinces me that he was a man of keen observation, a great thinker and reasoner, without prejudice, and a politician not for profit and gain, but for the honor of himself and constituents and his State.

He was elected to Congress seven times. He had acquired a national reputation. He died poor, and no dishonor as a representative of his people can be charged against him. Many people believe that a Congressman can grow rich upon his salary. The people believe that a Congressman is all-powerful; they think he can do the impossible, and when he fails to meet their expectations in every particular he is condemned and discharged. Such was not the fate of Judge HOUK, and such were not the people he represented. They had faith in him, and he justified that faith by advocating the political principles which were the outgrowth of the conditions and relations of his section of the State.

If he was for the Union during the late war, it was the outgrowth of the political sentiment of his section. If he was a soldier in the Union Army, it was the result of the political and patriotic sentiment of his district. If he was a Republican and a politician, it was the result of political and patriotic pressure from and by a loyal and appreciative constituency.

Having known of Judge HOUK for more than thirty years,

having served with him as a member of the Fifty-first Congress, and representing an adjoining district to that which he so ably represented, and knowing personally many of his constituents, I feel free to speak of him and his constituents.

I first saw him in the fall of 1861, after Tennessee had seceded from the Union, when armed Confederates were watching and guarding the passes in the Cumberland Mountains to catch the East Tennessee Union men who were fleeing to Kentucky to enter the Union Army. I was then a boy of fifteen. My section of the State was for the Union; the people were alarmed and excited; and with boyish enthusiasm I well remember the effects of drum and fife. I then lived, where I now live, at Barbourville, which was the first town in Kentucky after crossing the Cumberland Mountains, and hundreds, and I might say thousands, of East Tennesseeans sought food and shelter in our town, and that food and shelter was gladly given.

They came without clothing, except that on their backs; they came without money, except Confederate scrip; but they came with loyal hearts and true intent, armed with rude weapons and a stern resolve. Among this number came L. C. HOUK. I well remember him—young, active, nervous, smooth shaven, with a light moustache, spare made, quicker spoken then than of later years; without any money, poor and friendless, he was given food and shelter, as were hundreds of other East Tennesseeans, by the people of my town and county.

Judge HOUK at that time was talkative. He was active and energetic in talking to and providing for his comrades. I remember hearing him say, "Boys, I haven't got a cent, but you are among the best people on earth, who don't want money, but who will give you whatever you want." This was to a number of his friends and acquaintances who had run the

gauntlet; had crossed the mountains and reached Barbourville, the then Mecca of the loyal East Tennesseean.

Judge HOUK at that time attracted my youthful attention and admiration, and the next time I saw him he wore the uniform of a colonel, and was in my town on his way to East Tennessee in command of the Third East Tennessee Infantry.

The war over, I went to Tusculum College, near Greeneville, Tenn., and in 1868 I heard of a political discussion to be held at Greeneville. Obtaining permission from the faculty of the college to attend, I tramped 4 miles to hear something which was different from stale lectures and mild rebukes, and to my surprise I heard HOUK, then a circuit judge, make a political speech. In that speech I remember that he said about as follows: "The war is over. We are willing to forgive, but in doing that the Union men of East Tennessee ought to be the judges of conditions instead of those who drove them from their homes and firesides." His speech was strong and logical, and seemed to me to be mild when I considered the conditions and treatment of the Union men of East Tennessee.

The next time I saw Judge HOUK was twenty-two years later, in this Hall, when we were both members of Congress.

I have often been asked by people in official positions how it was that Kentucky elected Republicans to Congress. I replied, "We were for the Union during the war, and naturally went into the Republican party." "Why were you for the Union?" was next asked, and I said, "Because we were a mountain people and had comparatively few slaves, and slavery was the corner-stone of the rebellion." So it was with East Tennessee, which section has produced so many eminent men in all walks of life, politicians, jurists, and divines.

There was no aristocracy in East Tennessee; Brownlow, the

Taylors, Temple, Johnson, Maynard, HOUK, and others were representatives of poor white men, not slave-owners.

Judge HOUK'S district was a white district, there being but few colored persons in it outside of the city of Knoxville and Knox County. Sevier County gives 2,400 Republican majority, and it does not contain 75 colored voters. The territory comprising Judge HOUK'S district at the date of his death had not cast a Democratic majority in any election since Andrew Jackson carried it in 1824, from which time to the present it has been the stronghold in the South of Whigism and Republicanism; and Judge HOUK'S district, known as the Second district, has not been represented in Congress by a Democrat for forty years.

Without slavery, and opposed to the old principles of Democracy (I say old principles, because the old are quite different from the new, which are not so good), the people of Judge HOUK'S district were naturally Whigs, and they naturally were for the Union and opposed to secession. Four counties of his district enlisted more Federal soldiers than they had voters, and in round numbers his district furnished 14,000 soldiers to the Union Army, and the eleven counties of his district have nearly four thousand pensioners.

When Judge HOUK entered Congress thirteen years ago he was one of three Republican members from the eleven seceding States.

Eugene Lawrence at that time said of him in Harper's Weekly:

> He is about the only Republican member of Congress left from the Southern half of the Republic. He stands upon a frail eminence still unconquered by the violent inroads of rebellious storms.

At the date of his death he and Mr. Taylor, of Tennessee, and Mr. Cheatham, of North Carolina, and myself were the

only Republican members of Congress from fifteen Southern States.

He was a Republican to the manor born, and could not be called a carpetbagger. He was a Republican by education, because being an East Tennessee Whig, he was therefore a Union man, and consequently, naturally, was a Republican.

He was not vindictive toward his political opponents.

He was a leader and not a follower. He cemented his party strength to a degree that Republicanism has been on the increase instead of the decrease in his district. The last off-year majority in Judge HOUK'S district before he entered Congress was 700 and the Presidential majority was about 4,000, but under his leadership the off-year majorities went to 3,000 and afterwards to more than 10,000, whilst the Presidential majorities went first to 8,000 and in 1888 to about 15,000, and out of 168 civil districts in his Congressional district he carried 167 of them, whilst his Democratic opponent carried but one.

When he was gone and could not lead, the people elected his son as his successor, which, in my opinion, was eminently appropriate.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I express the hope that the people of East Tennessee may be as fortunate in the future as they have been in the past in selecting Representatives in Congress.

ADDRESS OF MR. CALDWELL, OF OHIO.

Mr. SPEAKER: By the death of Judge HOUK we have lost a true friend and wise counsellor, and our country an able, wise, and conscientious legislator—a patriot. He was endowed with rare intellectual ability, which had been developed by patient

and continuous toil. He early made himself familiar with the details of government, which, with his great ability, droll, quaint humor, made him one of the most interesting and ablest debaters in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I desire to read as my tribute to our deceased friend the beautiful and eloquent tribute written by the editor of the Eagle, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and published in that paper May 26, 1891. This tribute is from the pen of one who differed with our late friend politically, but who appreciated his high character, great abilities, and distinguished services to his country.

LEONIDAS C. HOUK.

"The death of LEONIDAS C. HOUK removes from the stage of affairs an interesting figure. Apart from the painful circumstances under which it occurred, his decease will occasion widespread sorrow among men of all parties. To the political organization with which he had been for nearly forty years identified it is a well-nigh irreparable loss. The Republican party in the South possessed no more upright, courageous, aggressive, and effective leader than the sturdy statesman who yesterday passed away at Knoxville, Tenn. If within the ranks of that party there were more members of similar character and caliber, its potency as an agency in politics and government would be immeasurably augmented. Unhappily, the HOUK type of Republicanism is rarely met with in the territory below Mason and Dixon's line.

"The Republicanism of LEONIDAS C. HOUK was the Republicanism of Abraham Lincoln. His affection for and allegiance to his party were implanted and stimulated when the party was at its best. His enlistment in its membership was the outcome of that love of liberty which has ever permeated the

atmosphere of his native region. Nowhere has the light of devotion to human freedom burned more luminously than in the mountains of East Tennessee. The vigorous Scotch settlers of that historic section carried with them the same detestation of slavery and reverence for the rights of man that distinguished their ancestors in the highlands beyond the sea. Amid surroundings that tried the hearts and souls of the people he was born and reared. The pages of American history recall no chain of events better calculated to illustrate the heroic traits of the masses than those which occurred before and during the war in the neighborhood of his home. The State of Andrew Jackson succumbed reluctantly to the insidious influences of treason and secession, but even after the die of disunion was cast the eastern part of the Commonwealth remained faithful to the flag. Its fidelity was one of the chief bulwarks against the triumph of rebellion.

"Of the host who wore the Federal blue none were more valiant than the Unionists of East Tennessee. They were situated in the very heart of the conflict. They were pursued with a ferocity that was appalling. The fugitive black, hunted by bloodhounds, was not the object of more intense hatred than that cherished for them by their lowland adversaries. So far as they were concerned the articles of war were suspended. They were unable to invoke the immunities which accompany the practice, under ordinary conditions, of the martial calling. For them capture meant death or torture. Yet they could no more be crushed by their determined foes than the Northern line could be broken by that famous charge of Pickett on the final day of Gettysburg. They upheld with unwavering fidelity and sublime self-sacrifice the banner of the stars against all comers. They maintained it in the reflection

of their burning homes, defended it amid the groans of their stricken brethren, and carried it triumphantly through four years of unexampled hardship to the goal of victory. They were fighting men, these hardy mountaineers, and they never learned what it was to be decisively and enduringly beaten. Their political convictions carried them to the verge of fanaticism. They would cheerfully have died before they would have renounced the Republican faith.

"That a man moving in this inspiring community would be profoundly attached to his party is a natural result of his environment. Judge HOUK clung to his convictions with a tenacity that excited the admiration alike of friends and foes. When the war, in which he valorously participated, was over, he passed into the tumultuous contentions of partisan controversy. His election to the Legislature, to the bench, and finally to Congress, followed in rapid succession. Every trust to which he was called by the will of his fellow-citizens received his faithful attention. His career in Congress was marked by diligence, tact, and an unfailing courtesy which brought him into most agreeable relations wih his colleagues. There was in the genial humor of his nature none of the flippant vulgarity too often met with in public occupations. Whatever contributions he made to the brighter side of life was the product of a character filled with the sunshine of manly candor and cordiality. His place at the national capital will not easily be filled.

"The Republican party, if it followed the example of Judge HOUK and men of similar character, would cease to be a sectional party. The South is solidly committed against that party because its Southern leadership is, in the main, unworthy of confidence, respect, or toleration. From the pur-

poses cherished by Lincoln and the standard erected by his trusted associates that leadership is as widely separated as the moon and the earth. To be a Republican chieftain and politician in Mississippi or South Carolina is to belong to a body of scallawags, carpetbaggers, and adventurers. Very different is the test of manhood required by Republicanism in East Tennessee. There the party name is not synonymous with rascality. There men of all parties dwell together in relations of mutual esteem and abiding good faith. To the superior quality of Republicanism in his State Judge HOUK contributed by zealous and constant endeavor. His efforts in that commendable direction were never more earnest than at national conventions.

"With splendid eloquence and withering scorn he exposed and denounced the wretched creatures who, while acting as delegates, make merchandise of their votes. The corruption of the Southern delegates at national Republican conventions has been a crying abuse ever since the second candidacy of General Grant. To abate or suppress the evil was Judge HOUK'S laudable ambition and desire. While he never succeeded in eradicating the wrong, he did much to modify its effects. Politics in his State and in the country at large was the better by reason of his connection with it. His departure will be mourned sincerely by his constituents in the State which gave 'Old Hickory' to the nation, and conferred upon it in after years the striking personalities of Andrew Johnson and 'Parson' Brownlow. Sorrow for his untimely and tragic death will extend beyond geographical and party lines, and even his bitterest partisan adversary will not hesitate to lay a token of remembrance upon his grave."

Mr. TAYLOR, of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move the adoption of the pending resolutions.

The resolutions were adopted; and the House then (at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p. m.) adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH.

FEBRUARY 9, 1892.

Mr. HARRIS. I ask that the resolutions from the House of Representatives in relation to the death of LEONIDAS C. HOUK, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee, be laid before the Senate.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Chair lays the resolutions of the House of Representatives before the Senate. The resolutions will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended, that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, As a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his eminent abilities as a distinguished public servant, that the House, at the conclusion of these memorial proceedings, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Mr. HARRIS. I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk, and ask for their present consideration.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The resolutions will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. LEONIDAS CAMPBELL HOUK, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That the business of the Senate be now suspended, in order that fitting tribute be paid to his memory.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect, the Senate at the conclusion of these ceremonies do adjourn.

EULOGIES.

ADDRESS OF MR. HARRIS, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. PRESIDENT: We are again called upon to pause in the performance of our legislative duties in order that we may pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of a deceased colleague.

LEONIDAS C. HOUK, for twelve years a Representative from the Second district of Tennessee, and a member elect to the present Congress, departed this life at his home in Knoxville on the 25th day of May, 1891.

He was born on the 8th day of June, 1836, in the county of Sevier, in the mountain region of East Tennessee.

In the poverty and obscurity of his early life his boyhood was devoted to learning the trade of cabinetmaker, which deprived him of all the ordinary educational advantages.

But with maturer years came an ardent desire for knowledge and to better his condition in life, which prompted him, while devoting his days to the manual labor of his trade, to devote the greater part of his nights to earnest study. And in this way he acquired an average English education.

Then, while yet following his trade, he commenced the study of law, and was finally admitted to the bar and commenced the practice.

His severe application, perseverance, and intense earnestness of purpose soon secured him rank in the profession, and his

ability and ingenuity in debate not only gave him a measure of professional success, but secured to him also a degree of prominence in the politics of the surroundings of his mountain home.

Early in the civil war of 1861–'65 he became a volunteer in the Union Army, and not long thereafter he was promoted to the command of the Third Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

In 1864 he was the elector for his district upon the Presidential ticket of Lincoln and Johnson.

In 1865 he was a member of the constitutional convention of the State.

In 1866 he was made judge of the judicial circuit in which he resided.

In 1868 he was a delegate to the Chicago Republican National Convention, and has been a member of all Republican national conventions, but one, since that time.

In 1873 he was elected to the State legislature, where he became the recognized leader of his party in the house.

He was elected to the Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth, Fifty-first, and Fifty-second Congresses; but in the maturity of his intellect and full vigor of his physical manhood he was, on the 25th of May, stricken down and suddenly passed away.

Mr. President, even under institutions such as ours, where the humblest citizen may properly aspire to the highest positions within the gift of a self-governing people, the career of LEONIDAS C. HOUK was remarkably successful. Born and reared in poverty and obscurity, and compelled to devote that portion of his life to manual labor which is usually devoted to acquiring at least the rudiments of an education, a laudable and earnest ambition to better his condition and rise in the world prompted him to burn the midnight lamp in the effort to edu-

cate himself, in which he succeeded, not to the point of scholarship, but to the extent of such practical education as enabled him, with his strong practical common sense, sleepless energy, and ambition, not only to take respectable rank in the legislation of the country, but to acquire an influence in and control of the district he represented that no one before him had been able to do.

Mr. President, success under such adverse circumstances is worthy of most honorable record.

There were, perhaps, no two men in Tennessee who differed more widely upon political questions than Mr. HOUK and myself, and growing out of these differences of opinion our personal relations were not always kind, but in the presence of death, all differences, political and personal, are hushed into silence and forgotten.

While he was in politics an able, active, earnest, aggressive, and bitter partisan, in social life he was kind, genial, and generous. In his death his party in the State lost its most efficient leader, and his party throughout the South sustained a loss almost if not quite as great, for he was justly regarded as one of the most able and efficient Republicans of the Southern States, whose opinions largely influenced, if they did not actually control, the action of his party throughout that section.

But his life's work is finished. His struggles, political and personal, are ended. May his ashes rest in peace.

ADDRESS OF MR. SHERMAN, OF OHIO.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The duty the living owe to the dead is to be kind to their faults and generous to their merits; to be truthful always, but with charity and loving-kindness. We do not fight over the grave, but in view of the common fate that awaits us all, we scatter flowers, pronounce eulogies, and shed tears when our companions precede us to the inevitable bourne to which we must soon follow. Sometimes it is urged that the pressing demands of the living do not justify us in suspending for a time our public duties to pay fitting tributes to the memory of an associate who dies. I do not think so. The time is not wasted when we note and record the impressive lesson so frequently given us of the brevity and uncertain tenure of our life here, the vanity of human ambition, and the utter insignificance and speedy oblivion of the greatest amongst us when the spark of life is extinguished. On occasions like this resentments are forgotten, party feeling dies away, and each surviving member turns from the open grave with a chastened spirit, better fitted to perform the important duties and obligations he owes, not to his party, but to his country.

The death of LEONIDAS C. HOUK, of Tennessee, brings before us one of the striking actors in the events of the most important period of American history. The civil war will always be regarded in future ages, whether viewed from the North or the South, by our own or foreign nations, as one of the memorable epochs in the history of mankind. It is now so far distant from us that even those who participated in its bloody battles, or its grave and difficult civil problems, can look back

upon them with calmness and moderation. I do not see how the war could have been avoided. Its seeds were planted in conditions that existed before the Revolutionary war. They were recognized and pointed out by the framers of the Constitution, but even their wisdom could only postpone the evil, but could not find a remedy. These elements of discord cropped out in every stage of our growth, and gave birth to parties and sectional divisions. They arrayed State and National governments against each other, and ripened into open warfare free and slave institutions.

It was beyond the power of poor, frail human wisdom and forbearance to peacefully reconcile these opposing elements into a harmonious union. A peaceful voluntary separation would have been a hollow truce and only an incitement to a greater war. It would have sanctioned the doctrine of despotisms, that republics were only born to die. If war was to come it was better that it came when it did, when the recollections of a common but glorious history and the ties of a common origin, language, and religion, and the wonderful growth and development of a great country by the common efforts of both North and South were the mystic cords that still held us together and pleaded for union in spite of slavery and opposing views of State and National authority. The war came, in which both sides proved their courage and endurance. In spite of the fearful loss of life and property, of the great pension rolls, of the wounded and disabled, and of widows and orphans, we can all agree, without passion or irritation, that the civil war has secured to the innumerable throng that will follow us the blessings ings of a stronger government than was possible before, freed from the grave contentions of the past. The people of every State and section and class will in due time have their full share

of these benefits. We may now all hope for a perpetual union of indestructible States, in which the people, all free, are the source of all power, whether exercised in the smallest school district or municipality, or in the numerous States, old and new, or in a Federal Government of limited but ample powers over the better part of a continent.

In this great struggle Mr. HOUK was a humble but not an insignificant actor. He was born and bred in the mountainous region of East Tennessee, where love for the Union was the dominant sentiment. Though the State of Tennessee had formally adopted an ordinance of secession, yet the majority of the people of East Tennessee rebelled against this secession. In most of the States, North and South, when the lines were drawn the minority acquiesced and the battle was fought on sectional lines; but not so among the brave mountaineers in East Tennessee. With them it was not a territorial war, a war between sections; it was a civil war, dividing communities, neighborhoods, and families, a war more desperate and cruel than modern war between nations. Mr. HOUK enlisted in this war for the Union against his State. Born in poverty, of humble parentage, without aids in education, he had passed through the trying ordeal of self-education, learning his letters and poring over his books by the pine torch light, working at his trade as a carpenter, studying law in the hours of rest, admitted to the bar, and steadily maintaining in intellectual contests the cause of his clients.

This was the early experience of many of the greatest men who won their way, especially in the South and West, to the highest rank among statesmen, soldiers, and lawyers, and to the greatest success among scientific, professional, and business men. So numerous have been these examples that we have come to

regard such obstacles as the necessary incentives to exertion and success, and the result is the best fruit of American institutions. Certain it is that no one ever won the measure of his success over greater difficulties than Mr. HOUK. When he entered the Army he had attained a respectable position at the bar of his native district. On the great question of secession or union he had no doubts, but took his position, with a majority of his neighbors, against his State. He soon commanded a regiment in the Union Army, and served as such until April, 1863, when he resigned on account of ill health. He afterwards took an active part in the reorganization of the State government of Tennessee, resumed the practice of law, was several times an elector for President, was a member of the convention that amended the constitution of Tennessee, and served as a judge for years. He was elected as a Republican member of Congress in 1880, and reëlected to each successive Congress to the present time by the same constituency. He died before he could enter upon the last term for which he was elected.

This brief epitome of a life, active and varied in peace and war, from humble poverty to assured success, long trusted by a people among whom he was born and who knew him best, prematurely cut off by death at the age of fifty-five, before his mental or physical faculties had begun to decay, is but the faint shadow of the rugged experience, character, and personality of LEONIDAS C. HOUK. I came to know him well in his later years. He often came to me for my opinion and advice. Why, I do not know, but presume it was because we, in the main, agreed. He was strong, earnest, and honest in his view of the powers and duties of the National Government. He believed in protection, improvements, development, and progress as these words are used in political creeds. He had no jealousy of

sections or States, but only insisted that Tennessee should have its full share of the blessings that come from national authority, whether in the form of offices or tariff protection or appropriations.

In late years his mind was full of the enormous mineral resources of East Tennessee, of its developed and undeveloped wealth. He loved the mountains among which he was born, and was proud that their hidden treasures were being revealed at a time when his people would be most benefited by them. He was always true to his constituents, a champion of his people, faithful to every representative duty. He was bold and aggressive in maintaining their rights, but generous to his adversaries and prompt to secure to them their restoration to the elective franchise and to all the rights of citizenship. The hearty expressions of respect that have been said of him here and in the House of Representatives by his enemies in war and his political adversaries in peace, are the best evidence of his manly and generous traits. Let us hope also that this kindly appreciation of the merits of the great actors in our civil war, whether on the Union or Confederate sides, may be continued and expressed until the last one has met the common foe, when a new generation may impartially cherish a just pride in the courage and heroism of their ancestors, and expend their energy in the peaceful development of a free and great Republic committed to their care.

ADDRESS OF MR. CULLOM, OF ILLINOIS.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I can not allow this sad occasion to pass without saying a few words expressive of my appreciation of the life and character of Judge HOUK and of my sorrow on account of his death. It was my good fortune to be intimately acquainted with him, and my admiration for his sturdy qualities became stronger as I knew them better. He was a warm-hearted man, fond of his friends, and had an undying devotion to his party, his country, and its flag. His nature was full of enthusiasm, and all through his life no man who knew him ever doubted Judge HOUK'S position or belief on any public question, for he reached conclusions quickly and was quick to avow them. While he was brave and determined, he was equally generous. Brave men are seldom found to be unfair in dealing with their adversaries.

As has been related by the honorable Senator from Tennessee, he was a Union soldier, and was seven times elected a member of Congress from his district. No man was braver in war, and none displayed a greater devotion to the interests of the people of his district or State. It became my sad duty, Mr. President, to attend the funeral of Mr. HOUK, and the occasion was a solemn one indeed. As has been stated, he was a resident of the beautiful city of Knoxville. On my arrival in that city in the morning of the day of the funeral services, I found business suspended for the day, and a universal recognition of the sad event in and along the streets of the city in all directions. The plain people, as the great body of the people were once designated, I believe by Mr. Lincoln, toward midday filled the

streets. They had come by railroad, in wagons, or on horseback, for many miles, and, on inquiry by me whence and how far they had come, I was told that many had come on horseback 40 miles and more. The equal of the demonstration of grief on account of the death of Mr. HOUK has been seldom witnessed in this country on other like occasions.

The people all knew him. They knew him as a boy, as a private citizen, as a lawyer, as a soldier, calling upon the brave men in the valleys and hills and mountains of Tennessee to come to the rescue of the Union and the flag, and he had led many of them in battle to victory and had suffered with them defeat. They had known him as a judge upon the bench, and finally as their Representative in Congress. He had done something for them all at some time. His life was a part of theirs. His death was a sad and terrible blow to them, and sorrow entered into every household in all that region of the great State of Tennessee.

Mr. President, men die, their mortal remains are carried to the tomb, and their names are soon forgotten, because they have done nothing to place the world under obligations. They leave the world unhonored nd unsung. Not so with the deceased, whose life and character we commemorate to-day. He had spent a life in doing acts of kindness to the poor and the needy of his district and State, and as a legislator had done great service in securing general legislation in the interest of the business and commerce of Tennessee. He believed in the foundation principles of liberty; he believed in the Union, and that it could not be dissolved except by revolution too powerful to be successfully resisted, and he fought in the line of his convictions.

The world is placed under obligations to a man for great

thoughts, great deeds, or great devotion to principle. This country, Mr. President, owes a debt of gratitude which can never be paid for the courage and devotion which he displayed in behalf of the Union and the principles of free government.

Men have their faults and failings—who can say that he has none?—but the man who improves the condition and happiness of one life struggling against adversity and in the shadows of despair is a benefactor of his race. The life of Judge HOUK was replete with acts of kindness and noble deeds, even to the almost entire neglect of his own interests and comfort. He was generous, brave, liberty-loving, and patriotic. His remarkable career has ended, and we can do no less than to express briefly to the world our estimate and appreciation of his qualities as a man, as a citizen, as a soldier, and as a statesman, now that he is gone.

ADDRESS OF MR. GALLINGER, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Mr. PRESIDENT: In the presence of death we stand awe-struck and powerless. Its mystery and its meaning are alike beyond human reach and human comprehension. We are born, we live, we die, and there the story ends so far as this life goes; but beyond this life, concerning which faith directs the mind and belief illumines the heart, we look for a better, a sweeter, and a more enduring world. But here death comes to all. The blow falls whether or not we are prepared for it. It is no respecter of persons, but comes to all classes and conditions of men.

The great questions of life, death, and immortality challenge the thought and overwhelm the imagination. Philosophers and

sages alike stand in awe as they contemplate the plans and purposes of the Unseen. Speculation is lost in the realm of doubt, and the limitations of human knowledge are on the border line of the beyond. After all, we can but realize that—

> The will of God is all in all. He makes,
> Destroys, remakes, for His own pleasure all.

Good Bishop Hall teaches that "Death borders upon our birth, and our cradle stands in the grave." Bacon says, "It is as natural to die as to be born;" and while Byron declares that—

> * * * it is a fearful thing
> To see the human soul take wing,

with what comfort can we turn to the words of our own Longfellow:

> There is no Death. What seems so is transition;
> This life of mortal breath
> Is but a suburb of the life elysian,
> Whose portal we call Death.

On occasions like this, when we recall those who have passed from our sight, whose activities are hushed and whose spirits have departed, we comfort our own hearts and extend words of cheer rather than sorrow to those who are bereaved, in the thought that "there is no death," in the consolation of a future life, and in the assurance of a better world than this.

I had no knowledge of the home life of LEONIDAS C. HOUK. I knew him only as a public man, being associated with him in the Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses. There I saw much of him, and our relations were more than ordinarily friendly. He impressed me as being a whole-souled, kind-hearted, earnest, honest man. Representing a district that gave him from ten to twelve thousand majority, he was proud of his constituency and devoted to his people. In debate he was strong.

His language was vigorous, his ideas clear, and his knowledge of public affairs comprehensive and just. He was frank, outspoken, and sincere—an able man, a good friend, and a loyal defender of what he believed. Judge HOUK was the acknowledged leader of his party in Tennessee, presiding at conventions, dictating nominations, and shaping platforms. In political life he was aggressive, perhaps sometimes autocratic, but through a long series of years he held the confidence of the party in his State, and no political gift in their power to bestow would have been withheld from him.

And so to-day we bring our tribute of love and place it on the grave of our dead friend. It is the last and only offering we can bring. His genial presence is missed. His kindly greeting is no more heard. His tumultuous spirit is forever at rest. His faults will be forgotten, while the memory of his virtues will remain with those who knew him, and the excellent qualities of his character will be a help and an inspiration to those he left behind. And it will be well for us all, remembering the suddenness of our friend's death, to adopt the words of Jeremy Taylor:

> He that would die well must always look for death, every day knocking at the gates of the grave; and then the grave shall never prevail against him to do him mischief.

ADDRESS OF MR. BATE, OF TENNESSEE.

Mr. PRESIDENT: "Thy scythe and glass, O Time, are not the emblems of thy gentler power." The sands run fitfully and swiftly through thy glass, and thy scythe cuts its broad swath by day and by night and never wearies reaping its harvest of death. In doing so, it claims alike for its victims the young

and old, the grave and gay, the exalted and the humble. In its relentless demands it recently invaded again our National Legislature and laid claim to the Hon. L. C. HOUK, of Tennessee, one of the most prominent and influential members of the House of Representatives. He was taken from the activities of life in his ripe and healthful manhood, at that period when his intellectual vigor was at its greatest strength; at a time when he was master of a field of political operations, from which he had practically driven competition; at a time, too, when holding a seat for the seventh successive term in Congress, where he had made an extended reputation, and where the future, to him, was more inviting than ever.

After the adjournment of Congress last spring Judge HOUK returned to his home in East Tennessee to enjoy a respite from official labors among those friends whose confidence and affection had for so many years been unwavering, and where alone in the bosom of his family could be found that sweet and quiet domesticity so soothing to the public official after the turmoil and strife of a Congressional session.

When Judge HOUK was thus surrounded, and at a moment when least expected, that dread messenger, which stops not and relents not, came suddenly—swift as the sped arrow from the bowstring—and claimed him as a victim.

Judge HOUK was a man of characteristics, the features of which were boldly and strongly marked. He was a man of convictions, and those convictions were of the most pronounced type, and showed forth distinctively, alike in peace and in war, in the quiet walks of life and in the national forum, representing those whom he loved and who loved and honored him.

Mr. President, living in the same State with him and belonging to opposing political parties, I but do his memory justice

when I say he was the most efficient political leader known to the history of the Republican party in Tennessee. In its councils he was wary, and his advice was always given with caution, which added much to his influence and control; but when the campaign was rife and the battle on he was its Ajax Telamon.

Astute, quick to perceive and understand the situation, he was bold and fearless in taking advantage of it. Judge HOUK was a dangerous political adversary, one who could command his resources and put them in shape with wonderful facility. His capacity and power for handling his resources in a political encounter have been shown no less in contests with party opponents than with rivals in his own camp. His forte was on the hustings, where, with the exercise of rare good judgment, bottomed on a practical everyday knowledge of human nature, he always commanded attention. With fluent speech, abounding in ready retort and happy illustrations; with a humor that often broadened into the ridiculous, whenever it pleased his audience for him to do so, and all guided by a self-possession that never deserted him in debate, made him, among the people with whom he had been brought up and with whom he was in political touch, almost invincible.

He was born and reared in the shadows of the mountains and the sunlight of the valleys of that Switzerland of America, East Tennessee. Being a native of the district he so long represented, his constituents knew his virtues as they did his faults. He was but human and had follies and faults. Who has not?

> "Poor race of man," said the pitying spirit,
> "Dearly ye pay for your primal fall;
> Some flowerets of Eden ye still inherit,
> But the trail of the serpent is over them all."

Of humble origin, with poverty as an heritage, and at a tender age, Judge HOUK was left without a father's arm on which to lean or hand to guide. With few facilities for education, indeed none save such as he himself created, he started on life's voyage. The way seemed dark and his equipment poor, but with talents and courage he dissipated the darkness and blazed his way to the open field where the sunlight invited prosperity. Thus we see him, from humble life, without means, without influential friends, and comparatively uneducated, battling with iron fortune until he held place in the front rank, where intellect, culture, fortune, and family influence held sway.

At the bidding of his people Judge HOUK was, by turns, State legislator, Presidential elector for his party, president of his party's State convention, delegate to his party's national conventions, judge of the circuit court of his judicial district, and Congressman for thirteen consecutive years, dying with his official harness on.

His long retention in office as the Representative in Congress of the same district, his native one, is the highest tribute that can be paid to his memory. This district he made a Republican Gibraltar, and when his political robe fell from him it found lodgment on the shoulders of his son, who, as one of the youngest and brightest members, occupies his father's seat in the other end of this Capitol.

LEONIDAS C. HOUK is gone, but his influence survives. His example as a self-made man will encourage many a poor and friendless boy to push towards the front; for his is a living chapter in the personal history of our country.

Mr. President, I ask for the adoption of the resolutions.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions submitted by the Senator from Tennessee.

The resolutions were agreed to unanimously; and, under the last resolution, the Senate (at 3 o'clock and 30 minutes p. m.) adjourned until to-morrow, Wednesday, February 10, 1892, at 12 o'clock meridian.

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